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Vol. 27 No. 33 ★ April 18, 2008

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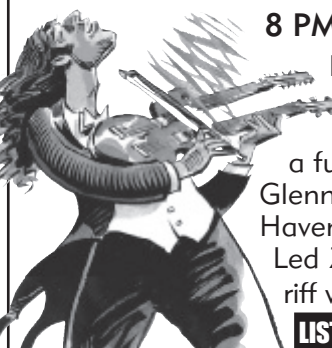
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NEW THIS WEEK!

EARACHE! Bump & Hustle and the **KIDDIE HIP-HOP PHENOMENON. SOUTHSIDE OF THE TRACKS** helps KVRX turn 20, and more

PICTURE IN PICTURE: A shake-up at **SXSW FILM** and an **INCENTIVES REPORT CARD**

CHRONIQUE: STYLIN' and **PROFILIN'** news and views from our improbable design blog

Chronic is now your one-stop blog shop for buzz on politics, sports, music, film, television, gaming, technology, design, gay stuff, and – do we even need to say it? – opinion. Our blogs as you knew them still exist, but now all posts will also feed into one crazy mash-up – newest on top, just like you like it.

THE GAY PLACE: THE FLIP-FLOPERNATOR. Plus: Kate & K&S & pals would love for you to dig through their old posts and comment.

NEWSDESK: City Hall Hustle grinds on to **PLACE 3**, plus **ELECTION FORUMS** galore

THE SCORE: Matt Moore on the **TOROS'** playoff chances, and more sports blatherings and whatnot from here and over yonder

W✕ **web extra**

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Humanity in Its Habitat

As part of the natural world, we can be neither celebrated nor condemned

BY LOUIS BLACK

In my last two columns, I wrote about realism and idealism, practicality and utopian fantasy. Many leftist positions that are too often and too easily labeled idealistic are in reality practical. Conversely, hardcore right-wing visions whose believers insist they are more realistic because they are so often brutal and not pretty, humanist, or compassionate are just discount-store fantasy. The conceit that cynical, bloodthirsty, suspicious, and hostile positions are the most honest because they are not “politically correct” is about the politics of disparaging and marginalizing people rather than actually considering ideas.

Twisting through all this position-taking is the notion that since, when it comes to expressing our opinions, we are mostly all on safe ground, the same is true when it comes to labeling or quantifying our beliefs. Sorry, but I think that proposition is more than shaky. In the same way that the notion of walking a mile in someone else’s shoes all too often has come to mean imagining in what ways, given one’s own beliefs and viewpoint, the wearer of those shoes is wrong and either willfully naive or evil. Similarly, in a classic and much embraced, modernist, partisan reading of the Lord’s Prayer, out of Matthew, we find folks of all political stripes recasting it as, “We forgive us our trespasses (sins), as we carefully record those who have trespassed (sinned) against us.” Not quite the spirit of the original, but the amount of personal absolution and self-forgiveness of one’s own sins is so unendingly abundant it is as though we truly are in biblical times.

Along those lines, I’m always amazed when, in the course of a discussion on race, people espousing one point of view or another will baldly state, “I’m not racist.” The number of times I’ve heard or read just such words before, after, and/or in the middle of racist statements can’t be counted.

Let’s accept the idea that at least some of bigotry is biological, that almost all of us are more comfortable with our “own” and get increasingly uncomfortable with “others” – especially the more different from “us” they are in terms of lifestyle, race, and religion. Given that, it is not at all absurd to suggest that we are almost all racist – although here I do not use the term in a literal way, to mean the more malevolent way of embracing the superiority of our race and the inferiority of other races.

Certainly, I do not mean even vaguely to suggest any nonchalant embracing of the many extremist views, ranging from the Ku Klux Klan, Nazis, black separatists, white supremacists, and anti-Semites to skinheads, xenophobic nationalists, and Islamofascists. Rather it is to argue that we are always cognizant of race in all our interracial interactions. Further, in all but in the rarest circumstances, this knowledge, if you will, does not come with the baggage of race hatred that insists on racial superiority and/or inferiority. It is not that pronounced or in any way extreme, but instead is found in the nearly unavoidable consciousness of differences.

Currently it is guaranteed reaction that, in the wake of any racial slight, misstatement, or hiccup (especially when authored by a minority), the mostly white, mostly right-wing television and radio pundits will weigh in with near gleeful condemnations that they insist are not just race-neutral but are actually offered in the service of the goals of true civil rights equality. The statements are usually so extremely racist that normal boundaries of social sensitivity are obliterated beyond recognition. This is Humpty

Dumpty country: Words mean exactly and only what we want them to mean. In the service of these visionary civil rights, they claim, they are not only applying a single standard of conduct to all but that doing otherwise would be racist.

The absolute smugness with which condemnations are thus issued is compounded by their authors’ ignoring not just a long history of pronounced and often legal racism but the reality that they are not, nor do they strive to be, race-neutral in making social judgments. They know this is blatant racism repackaged, and they are beamingly proud of themselves for doing it so cleverly. In fact, terms like “race neutral” and insisting “I’m not racist” are simple, currently acceptable code words that allow for the most biased, bigoted, and racist thoughts to be expressed as though they were socially reasonable observations.

It is crucial when considering such actions to remember that oppressed groups are not granted any special nobility by their oppression. Those discriminated against are not morally superior to all, including those who discriminate against them. Endowing the oppressed and segregated with special qualities – including any kind of moral absolution of any of their reactions or retaliations – does not only perpetuate the most vile, inhumane political and social systems but, in almost every way, embraces them. Regarding members of any race as superior – noble savages, God’s chosen, more civilized, racially superior – is exactly the same mindset that regards any race as inferior, inhuman, and soulless.

Consider the TV miniseries *Into the West*. In it, Indians are portrayed as so noble that the sequel should have them all traveling to the Vatican for beatification. Putting them on pedestals that deny them their humanity is a similar act to degrading them by dragging them through the mud. Endowing Native Americans with the spiritual qualities of saints

who are motivated only by the most exalted principles is a denial of their integrity and humanity. True humanity insists on the rights of all to be inhumane, stupid, misguided, and possessed of all seven of the deadly sins, as well as to be noble and inspired. Equality argues not for the holy baptism of oppression but the commonly shared and most mundane humanity of us all.

Arguably, those who are oppressors are morally compromised, but who among us is so without sin as to make that judgment? When I hear contemporary activists condemn previous generations as racist, sexist, or morally corrupted, it makes me crazy. A crucial step toward fascism and legitimized oppression is to deny history. Exercising one’s purity of vision by condemning others is the cheapest kind of moral pornography.

Wouldn’t we all actually be better off if, instead of grading the morality, humanity, and righteousness of all others, we instead worked upon improving ourselves? This would mean actually working on change rather than anointing ourselves, judged against the standards of those of whom we disapprove. The too easily and consistently glib will accuse me of doing exactly what I condemn here, but that is just a kind of lazy desperation to dismiss troubling arguments. I condemn no person or persons, nor do I celebrate or redeem myself in any way. Of course I wish I were a better person. Of course I am just as trapped by my emotions, experiences, and self-centered ways when dealing with the world as anyone. No Zen loss of “self” here. No large-picture arguments against selfishness or in favor of losing identity or addressing the defining oneness of us all.

Those who argue that the most unnatural force in nature is mankind – that humanity, rather than living in harmony with the natural world, corrupts, distorts, destroys, and ruins it – are being unbelievably, piously bizarre. Because we are here, we are natural. In the ways fires destroy, animals kill, and droughts turn the land barren, we live and do what we do. Suggesting that the natural world, without humanity, is more perfect, or that if there were far fewer of us and we were thus far less disruptive it would be more harmonious, takes Disney-style fiction to heights once almost unimaginable.

We are who we are, and that’s all that we are and all we should be. Or as put more succinctly and poetically by Popeye, “I yam what I yam, and tha’s all that I yam.” ■

Oops! In last week’s issue, the Arts feature “That Was Then; This Is Now” incorrectly identified the museum that hosts the “New American Talent” exhibition. That exhibition is hosted by Arthouse, not the Austin Museum of Art. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.

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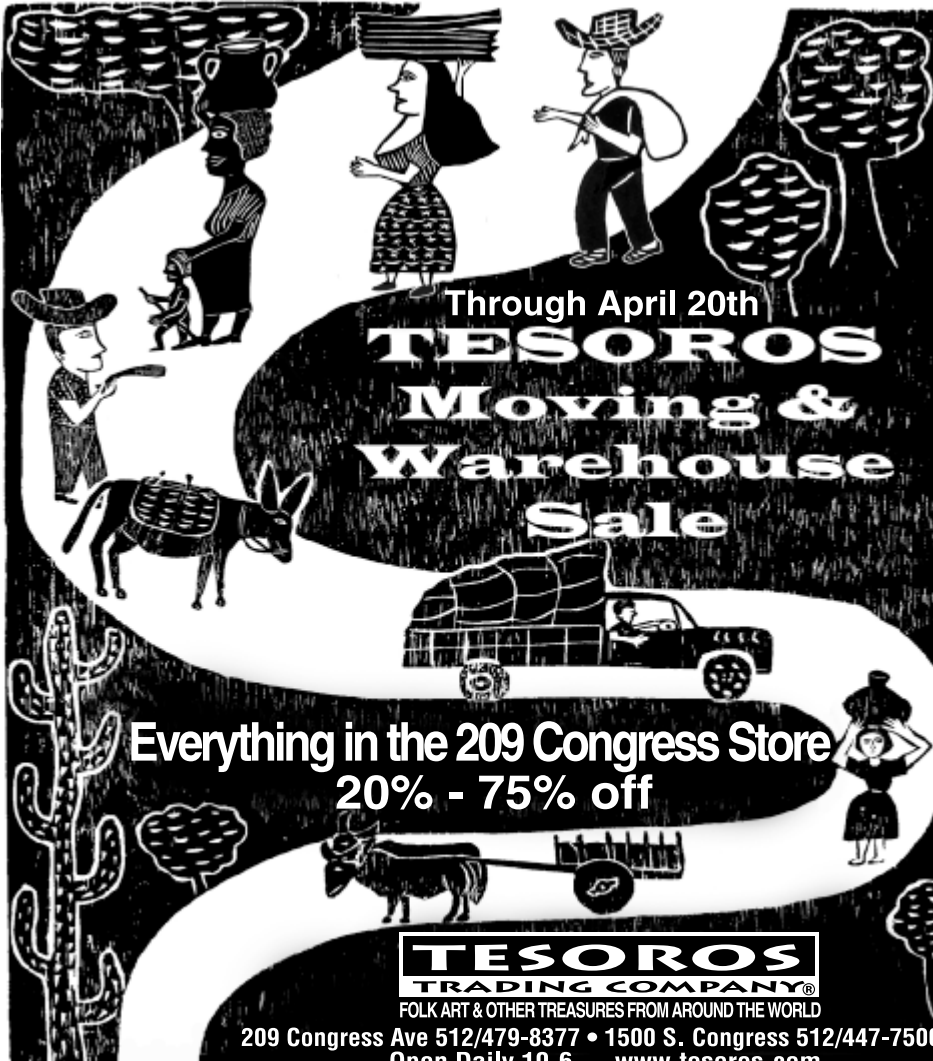
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Time for Public Financing of Elections

Dear Editor,

District Attorney Ronnie Earle was quoted ["District Eternity," News, April 11]: "I've got some hopes that I can spend some time and energy advocating for public financing of campaigns and against corporate corruption and for universal health care," he said. "Those are three things that I think are the very most important things that we could do to restore democracy, because if democracy depends on money, it isn't democracy – because then the public is frozen out of the process."

I agree and believe that Mr. Earle could be an inspiring leader for a nonpartisan movement with the credibility to attract the donors, activists, and voters to make this happen. Perhaps we can start with public financing of judicial elections by coordinating with existing reform groups like the League of Women Voters, Public Citizen, Common Cause, Texans for Public Justice, etc. Even including all the supporters of Kinky Friedman and Carole Strayhorn.

He is the right man at the right time for an idea whose time has come.

Paul Silver

CAMPO Article Did a Disservice

Dear Editor,

Re: Katherine Gregor's April 11 "Where's the Streetcar?" [News]: She did a terrible disservice to those who spoke at the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Working Group on April 7 by saying "a sizable audience endured overlong citizen presentations unconnected to the critical-path work at hand." When the CAMPO and city leaders want to follow Cap Metro and Chairman Lee Walker's race to insolvency, citizens deserve to be heard. What I heard was an innovative, homegrown idea on how to use our existing bus system to improve service, cover the entire community, cost less per rider, and pollute less within the existing revenue stream. Citizen Richard Shultz developed this idea all on his own, and it is so compelling that it deserves to be tried. See more at www.cmt4austin.org. Why go off on another *Titanic* voyage with another rail project before the commuter rail has a chance to prove it's a taxpayer nightmare, costing enough to buy each rider a new hybrid each year, emitting nitrogen oxide (ozone polluting) way more per rider than single occupant vehicles, not doing one whit to reduce congestion, while causing reduced service to those who depend on public transit just to try to keep the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority afloat?

Skip Cameron

Bunch Blames the 'Chronicle'

Dear Editor,

Re: "Point Austin," April 11 [News]: Your sub-head last week – "You can tell a lot about newspapers by what they don't cover" – is right on. I remember an Austin weekly that, if it were true, would tell its readers that all seven City Council members, including the mayor, owe their seats to bundles of developer cash. A guy named Al Ears would remind us of the fact, at least every other week, until someone who cared about our city got off his or her butt and tried to do something about it.

The paper would tell us this fact made a difference, that well more than 90% of the time, in contested land-use cases, the council voted for the developer and against neighborhood and environment interests. It would note that in most issues that mattered, the vote was unanimous, or perhaps with a weak protest vote.

The paper would report that wearing a green tie every time a camera pointed your way didn't make you green. If the City Council trotted out a Climate Protection Plan and declared it the "best in the nation," the paper would explain that the plan was 20% green and 80% greenwash. It would tell us how many tons of our daily trash fail to get recycled. Its readers would know how much water we waste and how many hundreds of millions more dollars our city wants to bet on decades more of water waste.

If the city manager went from being "best in the world" to smelly goat in the course of six weeks, its readers would know why.

It would do all of that – and more – on a shoe-string reporter budget.

You can tell a lot about a paper from what doesn't get covered.

*Sincerely,
Bill Bunch*

[Michael King replies: Save Our Springs Alliance is both financially and intellectually bankrupt, can't organize its way out of a disposable paper bag, and its executive director, Bill Bunch, blames the Chronicle. Well, why not – a politics wholly based on denouncing your neighbors and community has its limitations; arrogant self-righteousness is only the most obvious.]

City Needs More Sidewalks

Dear Editor,

It's good that a car-free reporter (Wells Dunbar) covered the proposed Park Place Village for homeless people ["Beside the Point," News, April 11]. Most people with cars would never notice the difficulty of getting to the site on bus and or foot.

In the upcoming City Council elections, there are actually two candidates who think the city needs to spend more on sidewalks. These are Robin Cravey for Place 4 and Allen Demling for Place 1. The other candidates are vague about sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle parking, and so on. Cid Galindo announced that he would make Austin walkable by building town centers. That means, I guess, that developments like the Domain will somehow help people walk across Slaughter, Lamar, the Capital of Texas Highway, and so on.

A recent *Austin American-Statesman* article mentioned that the city now spends \$5 million to \$7 million per year on sidewalks. (The total budget exceeds \$2 billion.) Right now, all the sidewalk money goes to wheelchair curb cuts. That is, sidewalks are not being built.

Sidewalks are basic. You can't build a glorious new city without pedestrian space. Yet that's precisely current policy. We can't afford sidewalks, but we've got to move more cars around faster – on borrowed money, if necessary.

continued on p.10

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Connecting Austin's streets for people on foot, on bicycles, and in wheelchairs would be the cheapest and most effective way to get people out of cars, unclog the streets, and clean the air. But this point tends to be lost on politicians.

We have two sane council candidates this time. That's two more than usual. If you want to be able to walk around 30 years from now, vote for Cravey and Demling.

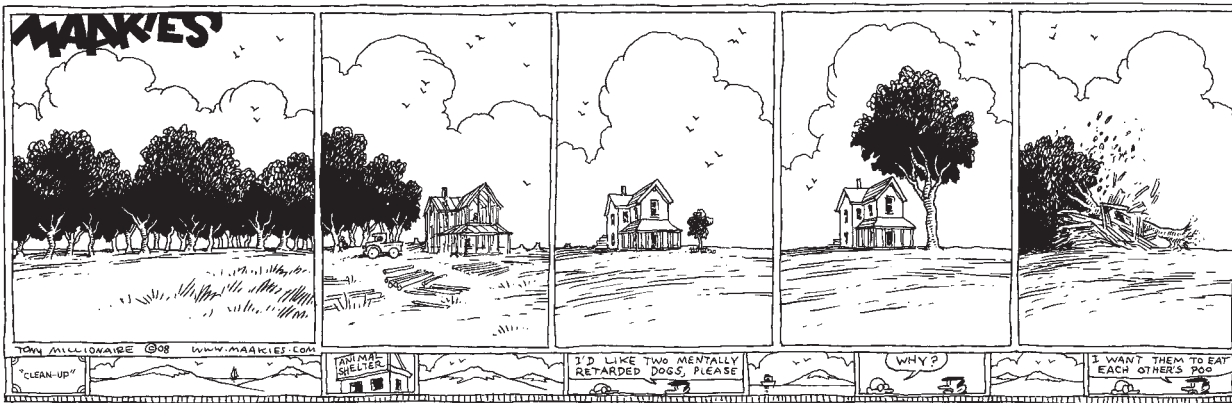
Yours truly,
Amy Babich

Pet Article Didn't Go Far Enough

Dear Editor,

Re: "Pet Sterilization Dogs City and Retailer" [News, April 11]: It is so hard to cover a situation this complicated in such a limited space, but Patty J. Ruland did just that. The cartoon at the top depicting Petland's business model is right on target, except it neglects the horrible situations many of these animals come from before making it to the Hunte Corp.'s dog brokerage, Petland's primary supplier. As usual, the quote from Carol Adams just goes to show she lives in her own little completely closed off from reality world. The Austin Save a Pet ordinance was right on track until Adams stabbed the rest of the commission in the back (and if anyone wants to find the minutes to that Animal Advisory Commission meeting, you will find that is an exact quote from the meeting) and took Dr. Harold Blatt on her own to go and visit Betty Dunkerley, where the both of them shot down the ASAP ordinance.

Although Ruland did a great job with this article, for some reason no one, not even the *Chronicle*, wants to point out the 380,000 pounds of euthanized cats and dogs that went to the landfill last year at a cost of about \$340,000 to the taxpayers, just for corpse disposal. That doesn't count the other \$5.1 million (poor taxpayers footing the bill again) that was given to Town Lake Animal Center to operate in 2008. Quite an increase from the \$4.2 million they spent last year. And of course, none of this takes into account the millions of dollars and countless hours of labor contributed by the hundreds, if not thousands, of volunteers and rescue groups in the Travis County area. An awful lot of money to protect someone's right to "do as they please with their property." What about my right to not have to pay to clean up someone else's mess?



Hey, City Council members! Welcome to the 21st century! Now step up to the plate, grow some huevos, and pass a working spay/neuter ordinance.

Thanks,
Delwin Goss

City Chooses Bugs and Birds Over Cats and Dogs

Dear Editor,

Re: "Pet Sterilization Dogs City and Retailer" [News, April 11]: When interviewed for this article, one of the things I said and firmly believe is that the Austin City Council will spend any amount of money it takes to save bugs and birds. But it was unwilling to save puppies and kittens who needed them when it counted. The council let itself be intimidated by out-of-town and out-of-state dog breeders who didn't want their pocketbooks hurt. Now, instead of being a leader, Austin is falling far behind as all the large cities in Texas either have or are working on a mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. Austin is sitting back, doing nothing but killing more and more animals because the Animal Advisory Commission, led by its president and vice president, wants it that way. Those two individuals need to be removed from the commission; the City Council needs to grow a backbone and pass the

spay/neuter ordinance we sent them. It was well-written. Do the right thing for the puppies and kittens at Town Lake that have already been born and should not have been. Slow down the numbers pouring in every day. It isn't too late to pass the Austin Save a Pet ordinance.

Cathy Olive
Former Animal Advisory Commission member

Many Readings of Ayn Rand

Dear Editor,


In your mention of the recent \$2 million endowment from BB&T Corp. to the UT Department of Philosophy to study objectivism, your reporter said "[Ayn Rand], who died in 1982, has become a leading light for Libertarians and neoconservatives, attracted by her support of laissez-faire economics" ["Naked City," News, April 4]. He could just as well have said that she was anathema to neoconservatives (and many Libertarians) due to her atheism or that she was a leading light to liberals for her opposition to laws interfering with relationships between consenting adults and for favoring the right to abortion. Or he might have said that both conservatives and liberals reject objectivism for arguing that each man should live for his own sake, sacrificing himself

continued on p.12

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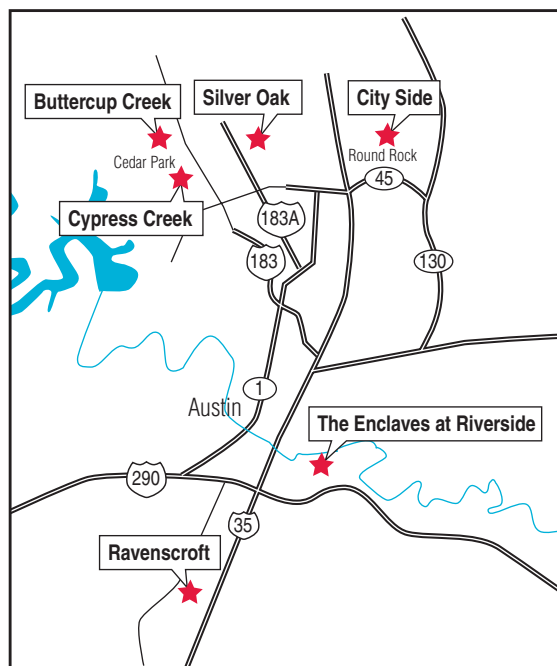


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neither to (a nonexistent) God nor other individuals nor the nation nor the environment. The general lack of knowledge of objectivism, and its disjunctions with all mainstream schools of thought, is precisely why the BB&T award is so desperately needed.

Sincerely,
Alan McKendree

A Sincere Call to Reason

Dear Editor,

A 16-year-old girl calls a shelter to report an alleged abuse, and an entire village is rounded up and the children placed in foster care ["Hundreds of Children Removed From FLDS Compound," News, April 11]? Another example of misdirected overkill? What next? Entire neighborhoods swarming with SWAT teams searching for an alleged criminal? Shock and awe and invade a country mistakenly suspected of involvement with 9/11? Round up and soften up (torture) suspected insurgents? The mass killings of "suspected terrorists"? The surrender of constitutional rights to protect us from the enemy? Who is the enemy? Difficult times, yes, but where is our sanity and reason?

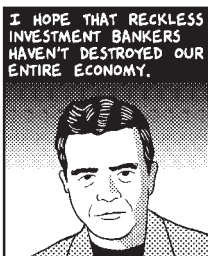
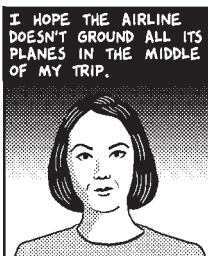
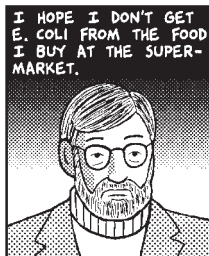
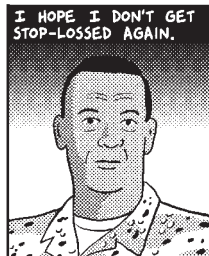
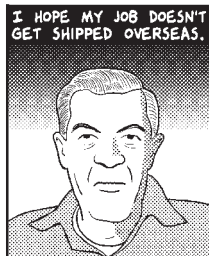
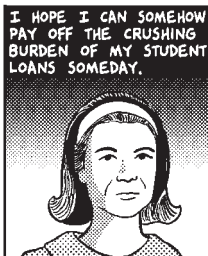
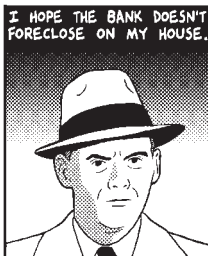
John Ashcroft recently misspoke and substituted the name Osama for Obama. He was summarily booed by the crowd. It is said that while involved in a White House meeting to authorize torture, the same gentleman said something akin to, "History will not look kindly upon this."

At the risk of being labeled a suspected whatever, falling prey to the PATRIOT Act, and having water poured up my nose, I submit this as a heartfelt and sincere call to reason.

Respectfully,
Wayne L. Wylie

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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Questions About Eldorado

Dear Editor,

What is happening to the children of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sect in Eldorado, Texas, is horrible ["Hundreds of Children Removed From FLDS

Compound," News, April 11]. While we must search for truth, we must do so in a way that does not create trauma. We live in the USA, not Nazi Germany. We must seek out *only* those who break the law. Wouldn't it be more reasonable to leave the mothers and children at home and sequester the men against whom the allega-

tions are made? Is there an investigation into the accuracy of the allegation? What if someone just wanted to cause trouble for this group? I realize that as a citizen I do not have the same information the government authorities have, *but* there is common sense that should be used in handling this matter. Come on; taking more than 400 people from their home?! If there is anyone that is unhappy or abused in the group, the investigators would find that out without having to remove the children from their mothers.

Respectfully,
Gina Payne
Kingwood

Doesn't Like Pet Business

Dear Editor,

I was completely appalled to learn that Petland was opening its doors in our city ["Pet Sterilization Dogs City and Retailer," News, April 11]. To the best of my knowledge, there has not been a pet store selling puppies and kittens in Austin for many years. This is a huge step backward for our city, and once the truth is known, I find it hard to believe the people of Austin will tolerate such a store here.

There are groups of concerned citizens all over the country working to educate the public about the problems associated with selling puppies and kittens in stores. This issue does not just concern individuals active in the animal-rights community. People everywhere are speaking out and taking a stand. You may have seen the recently aired *Oprah Winfrey Show* about puppy mills, which has gotten a very positive response from the public. And, at one of the recent Petland protests in Austin, a group of people on their way to the store stopped to hear what the protesters had to say and came back to join the protest.

continued on p.14



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The many thousands of adoptable dogs being euthanized in shelters every year and the untold numbers suffering in puppy mills all over the country don't have a choice. We do.

Jeanne O'Neil

Equal Funding Leads to Inequality

Dear Editor,

I have learned from the broken desks of Edgewood Independent School District and studied in the pristine classrooms at the University of Texas. As the number of minorities in higher education dwindles, I continue to contemplate the inequality which exists within our public school system.

America has long prided itself for committing to equality and justice. We preach these values

to our children, yet some of the cruelest forms of injustice prosper throughout the halls of the public schools serving our children.

Government officials justify the educational system by claiming that all schools should be given equal allocations. It is difficult to imagine how allocating an equal amount of funds to every child is the solution to a problem of inequality. There is nothing equal about the school experiences from rich and poor children of Austin.

Public schools serving low-income Latinos and African-Americans are highly underfunded compared to the public schools of their Anglo counterparts. Equal funds result in overcrowded classrooms taught by unqualified teachers, as well as outdated textbooks and facilities for low-income children. As a mentor for elementary students in East Austin, I have come across the 7-year-old who cannot recite his alphabet, children who live among drugs and drive-bys, and the teacher who has more than half her students reading two grade levels behind.

Equality is not the answer; more funds must be spent on children who have historically been denied the chance to succeed.

Lauren Gutierrez

Dear Bike Rider, Wake Up!

Dear Editor,

I just want to thank the guy riding his bike down Guadalupe the other day at rush hour. He was doing his part, saving a lot of gas. It was great the way the rest of us continuously missed all of the well-synchronized lights – I assume timed that way to save fuel – and had to stop and idle for 45 seconds while he ignored traffic laws and rode on through all. To make those lights work, you need to do only the posted speed limit, but because of the bottleneck this

guy created that day, that was not the case. So all those cars sat at idle time and time again, burning many times the fuel that guy saved. I drive a very fuel-efficient car (30-plus miles per gallon) and a scooter (75-plus mpg). The city offers many options of bike routes, and I applaud the folks who utilize them and wish I had the ambition. But to block traffic like that is very inconsiderate to other drivers – and the environment. You are not part of the solution, so that makes you part of the problem! Wake up!

Carl LoSchiavo

Cutting to the Chase on Pets

Dear Editor,

Let's cut to the chase here rather than chase our own tail (pardon the pun) ["Pet Sterilization Dogs City and Retailer," News, April 11]. Petland is bad business for Austin. How fair is it to allow a store to sell puppies when we have more than 30 homeless dogs killed every day at our shelter? Reputable animal advocates stated on Oprah Winfrey's puppy-mill show that "99 percent of pet stores get their puppies from puppy mills." Am I really supposed to believe that Petland represents the 1% that doesn't? Shutting down pet stores and requiring mandatory sterilization are the keys to ending pet overpopulation. Groups like Responsible Pet Owners Alliance that think otherwise are downright irresponsible and have no alliance with saving animals' lives.

Timothy Verret

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This exercise in narrowcasting has resulted in some markedly meta-moments, like former Austin Neighborhoods Council President Laura Morrison getting grilled by the organization she once led or Responsible Growth for Northcross inviting intrinsic member Jason Meeker to their candidate forum. (Hmm, wonder who'll pick up the nod?) To their credit, neither organization pulled any punches or let their former functionaries off the hook, although Lee Leffingwell was afforded a rather

SANDY CARSON

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frosty reception at the latter. One question from the audience, presupposed on the city's burning desire to destroy Webberville's "pristine forest" for a landfill, had him respond, "That's kind of a 'When did you stop beating your wife?' question." In his closing remarks, he cracked, "Thank you for inviting me, I guess." While the cottage industry of forums and endorsements has been a welcome thing, with it come potential gray areas.

Along with the forums boom has come an avalanche of questionnaires, with (again) the ANC, RG4N, and other various and sundry groups putting questions to the candidates for the whole world (or 78704, at least) to see. The unquestioned champ of this tactic has been the Better Austin Today Political Action Committee. BATPAC vamped 30 questions over nine pages, although the real question often seems to be: Just how in love with its own voice is the group? (One "question" begins: "Over and over, City decisions appear to be made behind closed doors, with little or no public input, with public involvement only coming in after-the-fact. The result is that the ideas, wisdom and intelligence of the community is relegated to a purely cosmetic or backseat role. Recent examples of this include ..." before going on for 70 more words.) And here I thought bats were deaf.

I won't revisit the controversy over Meeker's involvement in the BATPAC except to say that this season's influx of forums, questionnaires, and endorsements has been an unquestionably good thing – yet with much of the swelling miasma appealing to more and more individual, distinct groups, it's good to take each with a grain of salt. Or as my

colleague Michael King said in this space some weeks back, don't take any endorsing group's word for it (except your trusty *Austin Chronicle's*, coming next week!); get out there, see the candidates in action, and decide for yourself. You honestly have no excuse.

That's Entertainment!

If you don't make it out, you're also missing out on some valuable entertainment. It's been remarked that our seemingly irredeemable national political discourse is so painfully debasing and obfuscating of substance – witness the current, witless debate on "elitism" led by buff-shined media figures earning salaries in the seven digits – that there's seemingly something masochistically wrong with those souls willing to put themselves through the process. While it's a huge leap to apply the same rubric to local elections, the whipped frenzy of these elections – anger and worry

at Austin's growth and growing expense, exemplified most negatively in the interecine Place 1 imbroglio – has led to some truly dramatic, cringe-inducing – and yes, hilarious – moments on the campaign trail. It possibly reached its nadir (or apex) in late March, the night of the ANC meeting – but also the night of an omnibus Democratic clubs endorsement meeting. With the candidates pressed for time, as Leffingwell and Meeker stared daggers at each other in front of me, I asked myself: You think they carpooled tonight?

Probably not.

Michael King will be back with "Point Austin" next week. E-mail BTP at wdunbar@austinchronicle.com.

By now, candidates have had ample chances to inveigh on all things neighborhood-related, as well as the finer points of public safety, and environmental measures – pretty much the holy trinity of River City politics.

EVEN FURTHER BESIDE THE POINT

With City Council canceled this Thursday, April 17, candidates are taking part in a forum in council chambers today. Don't worry, however, as this is as close as most of them will ever come to sitting on the dais.

But that's not to say its current occupants are resting on their laurels. At their meeting last week, council approved the request for redevelopment proposals of the Seaholm Power

Plant Downtown. They also, amid some incendiary protests from neighbors, approved the long-term lease of land for the Park Place Village housing development for the homeless. Meanwhile, the circuitous path of the billboard signage ordinance grows longer, now having been pushed back to April 24 amid the Planning Commission's complaints. Until then, this is BTP, signing off!

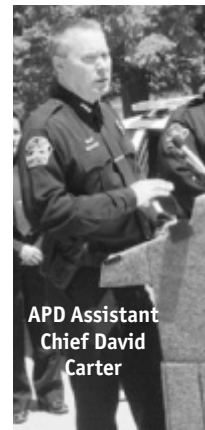
– W.D.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Wha?! Who?! The Austin Police Department rolled out a new look this week, with updated patrol cars, uniforms, and patches. The sleek new makeover actually saves the department some money (who knew those old red pant stripes cost so much?) but prompted evening-news speculation that we might no longer recognize our officers of the law, especially during the transition period, when we'll be seeing both the old and new looks on the street. So take a good, hard look at APD's sexy new visage, pictured here. Too hot to be true? Not at all.

– Nora Ankrum



APD Assistant Chief David Carter

CITY HALL HUSTLE

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Watch the *Chronicle* do it vloggy-style with the inaugural video blog City Hall Hustle. Every Thursday in April, City Hall Hustle will deliver the down-low on the upcoming City Council elections, bringing you profiles and interviews with the candidates – all imbued with the inimitable flavas of City Council reporter **Wells Dunbar**. Catch the entire three-part series online at austinchronicle.com. This week's stars: Place 3 candidates **Jennifer Kim** and **Randi Shade**.

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and CEO Juan Sánchez, is to find ways to empower the East Austin community. Already, Southwest Key has launched a door-to-door voter education and registration program in the Govalle/Johnston Terrace neighborhood to turn out new voters in the city's May election. Southwest Key's grand-opening celebration will be 10am-9pm on Saturday, with an afternoon community fiesta. Southwest Key holds the federal government's largest contract to provide shelter for unaccompanied minors who enter the country illegally without parents. Southwest Key's shelters in California, Texas, and Arizona provide education, counseling, and caseworkers while immigration cases are processed.

– Kimberly Reeves

It's property-tax time again, and the **Travis Central Appraisal District** has issued early house-price statistics to give people "some understanding of [their] valuation process," with a caveat that these are broad outline numbers and "do not precisely measure appreciation rates." In the Austin Independent School District, the average sale price per square foot has risen by 9.4%, from \$135.67 to \$148.48, but average sale price has only grown from \$271,876 to \$287,079 – a 5.6% jump. The county notes that prices have risen sharply in East Austin, due to "relatively lower house prices, yet close proximity to the University of Texas and the central business district." Beyond Austin, the highest per-square-foot appraisal is Eanes ISD, at \$218.44, but the biggest percentage jump in value is in Lago Vista ISD (31.9%). The county reminds homeowners that their appraisal notices should arrive during the week of April 20. There will be a return form on the back available to anyone aiming to protest their property appraisal, and the district will start scheduling protests on May 27. TCAD also reminds people that, as long as the property is their home-stand, 10% is the most by which the taxable value can rise.

– Richard Whittaker

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

Lawyers for Texas Child Protective Services are headed into court today (Thursday) to argue that the state should be given permanent custody of the 416 children seized earlier this month from the **Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints'** gated compound outside the West Texas town of Eldorado. The children were taken during a weeklong raid prompted by a phone call allegedly placed by a 16-year-old at the ranch; she told officials at a family-violence shelter that she had been beaten up by her 50-year-old husband. She also said she is the man's seventh wife. Polygamy is key to the FLDS, which believes that a man must have at least three wives to be accepted into heaven – and that women must submit to the practice if they hope to follow. (For more on the FLDS, see "Meet the New Neighbors," July 29, 2005.) State officials say they took the children – ranging in age from about 6 months to 17 years – after finding a "pattern of abuse" at the ranch that places the children at imminent risk. Meanwhile, the *Houston Chronicle* reports that several FLDS women have penned a letter to Texas Gov. Rick Perry claiming that the children have become ill while in state custody. Officials have said that about a dozen children had chicken pox, but CPS spokeswoman Marissa Gonzalez told the daily she had not seen the letter yet and thus could not comment on its content.

– Jordan Smith



JANA BIRCHUM

The annual SafePlace Walk April 12 featured a display recognizing the women who have died as a result of abusive relationships. As part of the event, Austin resident Veronica Fernandez donated \$25,000 and two new vehicles to the shelter after winning the prizes in a contest sponsored by Ford Motor Co.



JANA BIRCHUM

When is a junked car not junk? When it's art. But who gets to decide when that is? The city of San Marcos says it does, which is why it's trying to seize Ralph the Cactus Planter, a decorated garden ornament in front of the Planet K store on I-35. The problem is what Ralph once was: an Oldsmobile '88. The city issued a citation in November saying Ralph violated its junk-car ordinance and could be seized and scrapped. Now Planet K's lawyer Pete Kennedy (who also represents *The Austin Chronicle*) is fighting the citation in federal court, saying Ralph is art and therefore protected by the First Amendment. Attorneys for San Marcos argue that how pretty or ugly Ralph is now is irrelevant, since the citation was made before the store brought in artists Scott Wade and Furlly Travis to paint Ralph. Planet K's founder and CEO, Michael Kleinman, called this "big government following the rules and ignoring the reality," since he's had similar "transformed cars" at other Planet K stores around Austin since 1990, with no prior complaint. "Everybody loves to look at them and take pictures in front of them. It's public art," said Kleinman. But now one of Ralph's siblings, located at the Stassney store, has been served a similar citation by the city of Austin. Kleinman says he will appeal this in municipal court on April 25.

– R.W.

At press time, the U.S. Supreme Court was hearing oral arguments in a case that asks whether the execution of a child rapist contravenes the Eighth Amendment ban on **cruel and unusual punishment**. The case, *Kennedy v. Louisiana*, involves 43-year-old Patrick Kennedy, who was convicted and sentenced to die for the rape of his 8-year-old stepdaughter in 1998. Kennedy claims he is innocent and that the crime was actually committed by two boys in his suburban New Orleans neighborhood – he refused to plead guilty even after prosecutors offered him a deal that took the death penalty off the table. According to his defenders, Kennedy is the "only person in the United States who is on death row for a nonhomicide offense." Indeed, no one has been executed for rape since 1964; just 13 years later, the Supremes concluded that imposing the death penalty on a man for the rape of an adult woman was unconstitutional. However, lawyers for the state (joined by nine other states, in a friend-of-the-court brief authored by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott) argue that the rape of a child – among society's "most vulnerable" – might warrant the ultimate punishment. Kennedy's lawyers argue that expanding the death penalty for nonhomicide offenses is counter to the current trend of contracting its use – indeed, in recent years, the Supremes have ruled the death penalty unconstitutional for juveniles and for the mentally retarded. Four states, including Texas in 2007, have joined Louisiana in making child rape a capital offense. (Two others have similar laws on their books, although their constitutionality has been called into question by state courts.)

– J.S.

The state's school accountability system faces a major overhaul in the next legislative session. At a hearing for a select committee in San Antonio this week, various school districts talked about the possibility of growth models that would measure a school's overall progress rather than pegging its rating to its lowest-performing subgroup. Depending on how you look at it, that could provide serious help – or a more-balanced picture – to schools in danger of closing because of persistent low ratings. In Austin, that would pertain to both **Pearce Middle School** and **Johnston High School**, as well as a number of other secondary school campuses that are on the cusp of facing state sanctions. Under the current accountability system, Education Commissioner Robert Scott has a right to force a persistently low-performing school to revamp curriculum or replace faculty. He also can replace a public-school system with a non-profit provider to run the school.

– K.R.

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Pat and Dale Bulla in their award-winning garden in Northwest Austin

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all the rest of the vegetation."

The upkeep of the yard is pretty simple. "We plant stuff that belongs here – predominantly native plants," Pat says. "We do very little vegetable gardening, because you can't dig very deeply when you're sitting on limestone. ... We keep the place tidy, but we've found that if you save on your energy use, you wind up having to do less work."

Doing less work actually paid off in the long run with the Green Garden award. To win such a recognition, a homeowner must be a city of Austin water customer and meet at least seven criteria, including conservative yard watering, mulching, watering with rainwater, making pathways from water-permeable materials, using fertilizers sparingly – and then only in natural or organic brands – and using trees to shade the house and gardens, to name a few. Currently, 51 Austin homeowners have received this honor.

But any home ecologist worth his Birkenstocks will tell you that it's not enough for just one person to change his manner of living, gardening, and landscaping – the whole community should do so as well, hence the city's Green Neighborhood award. The relatively young program is built around the simple and seemingly obvious idea that the actions of each individual affect the water quality – and therefore the quality of life – of the entire community. An Austin neighborhood can be declared green if it racks up 50 or more credits by participating in activities like erecting a neighborhood "Scoop the Poop" box, sponsoring an official creek cleanup, or setting up a rainwater-collection demonstration site. The

Copperfield neighborhood, situated along Walnut Creek in Northeast Austin, won the city's first such award in 2007.

The Jester group met several of the Green Neighborhood criteria. As part of its education program, the homeowners association has explained to residents that since Jester sits on top of the environmentally sensitive recharge zone of the Edwards Aquifer, any fertilizer or pesticide put on a lawn winds up tainting the cold, pristine aquifer. The association has marked storm drains with decorative tiles that warn of this danger.

Jester residents are also encouraged to apply for wildlife habitat certification from the National Wildlife Federation. Applicants list what sort of plant and animal life is on their property and explain how they engage in sustainable gardening practices and provide water, food, adequate cover, and proper places for animals to mate and raise their young. Thus far, more than 40 Jester households have received this certification.

While all of this might sound like a lot of trouble, the Bullas insist that it's only when we treat the landscape and the natural world in an artificial way that yard maintenance becomes an annoying, unfulfilling, expensive chore. In other words, you don't have to be rich, a fanatic, or an expert to pull off a green garden, but you do have to be open-minded. "The more people know," says Dale, "the better choices they make."

– James Scott Bankston

For more on the Green Garden and Green Neighborhood programs, visit the city's website at www.ci.austin.tx.us and click on "Environment" in the left-hand column.

Retired Teachers Preach the Gospel of Green

Dale and **Pat Bulla** don't like doing yard work. The retired teachers are energetic and enthusiastic, but you won't see them mowing, raking, edging, watering, and fertilizing their lawn at their home in Northwest Austin. Yet in 2003, the city recognized them with a **Green Garden** award, and in February, the Jester Homeowners Association, in which the Bullas are active members, became the city's second Green Neighborhood winner.

Before the Bullas built their home in the late Nineties, they boned up on environmentally sound building practices and attended semi-

nars at the **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**. It helped that they were already passionate nature lovers – they're both certified habitat stewards for the **National Wildlife Federation** and are active in a number of other nature groups.

Dale explained that during construction they implemented a "building envelope" – a green-building method of preserving as many native plants as possible. "We only removed the vegetation in the footprint of the house," he said. "We had staging areas for the plumbing, utilities, and driveway. And we fenced off



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RISE OF THE BIKES

At an April 2 meeting intended to gain community input on the recently initiated update to the city of **Austin Bicycle Master Plan**, project manager **Annick Beaudet** told attendees that in many ways, conditions exist for the perfect storm of bike-mobility progress: impending local smog violations, auto-traffic overloading of area roads, increasing climate awareness, and a citywide zeal for fitness. Beaudet and her staff hope to channel this energy into achieving the bike plan update's three key goals: institutionalizing cycling as a transportation mode, improving safety, and increasing bike commuting and utilitarian cycling for short, nonrecreational trips. Originally enacted in two parts, in 1996 and 1998, the plan is about 35% complete, according to Beaudet, who said it isn't so much being overhauled as refreshed. Moreover, the update will reprioritize some projects to attract new bicyclists.

The refresher in large part will come from recommendations made by the city's **Street Smarts Task Force**, which was formed in response to a proposed mandatory helmet law in 2006. Bicyclists by the hundreds descended on council chambers demanding that the city work to make cycling safer and more viable. The task force's resulting 10 months of work embody the local cycling community's long-held bike-transportation goals and include national best practices and new concepts tested in bike-friendly cities worldwide. Divided into Infrastructure, Education and Promotion, and Law Enforcement subcommittees, the task force's broad composition includes representatives from

the medical community, Austin Police Department, City Council, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin Cycling Association, Austin's Yellow Bike Project, and the League of Bicycling Voters, in addition to regular bike commuters.

Some key recommendations include increasing the program's staff and budget, especially for promotion of bicycling facilities and initiatives; getting parked cars out of striped bike lanes; developing off-street bicycle networks and a Downtown bike/pedestrian zone; installing showers, lockers, and secure parking around town to encourage bike commuting; and setting up a city board to shepherd the updated bike plan to fruition. Also recommended are a variety of traditional and creative bike facilities citywide and integrating bicycle considerations into planning and zoning code-making.

The recommendations, estimated to cost around \$55 million, have gone before 14 city departments and are expected to reach City Council by April 24. The increasing appearance of cyclists on Austin's roads may be evidence of a growing bike groundswell – perhaps one with formidable political clout, if the well-attended **Austin Cycling Association's** April 7 City Council candidate forum is any indication. But it remains to be seen whether the political will exists to invest earnestly in cycling improvements. To see candidates' responses to the League of Bicycling Voters' questionnaire, see www.lobv.org; see the complete Street Smarts Task Force bike-plan recommendations (and make your own comments) at www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle.

– Daniel Mottola



A collection of photos by John Langmore, "Fault Line: A Portrait of East Austin," currently on exhibit at the Mexican American Cultural Center, kicked off passionate discussions about artistic voice and gentrification at the recent Congress for the New Urbanism and at the exhibition's opening, April 10. The one-year project celebrates "the beauty, the history, the charm, and the perseverance of the people of East Austin." See the compelling large-scale images through Sunday, April 27, at the MACC Community Hall Gallery, 600 River St. From the artist's statement: "That the gentrification disrupting so many working-class neighborhoods across the country will work its hand on East Austin is a certainty. While change is inevitable, that does nothing to alter the fact that it is also most often lamentable. Lost will be an important history, a strong and deep-rooted sense of community, and a patina that exists nowhere else in a city vying for its spot on the lists of America's 'coolest' places to live."

– Katherine Gregor

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Leffingwell, Shade, and Galindo Clean Up

Thirty days before an election is usually a good time to take stock of candidates’ war chests to see just how flush – or flat – their campaigns are as they head into the final stretch. In the latest financial

reports filed April 10, incumbent Lee Leffingwell and first-time candidates Cid Galindo and Randi Shade surpassed their competition in each of the three council races. Here’s a closer look:



PLACE 1

Money may not be completely predictive of an election outcome, but the rather obvious conclusion to be gleaned from looking at the campaign and expenditure reports in the Place 1 race is that **Jason Meeker**’s challenge to incumbent **Lee Leffingwell** hasn’t gotten much traction. In fact, Meeker isn’t doing much better than the intentionally low-budget campaign of the third candidate in the race, Allen Demling. As of March 31, Meeker had raised \$8,480 and still has \$4,046 on hand. Demling has raised \$460 plus a \$1,177 loan, and he’s spent almost all of it. Those molehills look mighty tiny in the shadow of Leffingwell’s \$121,466 raised this cycle. Combined with his previous balance, he still has \$110,069 on hand.

Leffingwell’s support is broad, reading like a who’s who of the Austin political establishment and crossing party lines. Among the names we recognized on his list were former state Sen. **Gonzalo Barrientos**, Zoning and Platting Commission Chair **Betty Baker**, architect **Sinclair Black**, Republican County Commissioner **Gerald Daugherty**, philanthropists **Joe** and **Teresa Long**, environmental activist **Shudde Fath**, antique store owner **Whit Hanks**, and state Rep. **Donna Howard**, just to hit the highlights. And of course, other contributions that Meeker has tried to spotlight are the \$9,300 Leffingwell took from attorneys with **Armbrust & Brown**, the firm that defended Lincoln Property in the **Responsible Growth for Northcross** trial that gave rise to Meeker’s candidacy, and from Scott, Douglass & McConnico attorney **Casey Dobson**, who defended the city in that suit. Meeker was the spokesperson for RG4N; he has demanded that Leffingwell return the contributions, and Leffingwell has refused.

Meeker’s support is definitely more limited, not only in size but also in breadth – of his 42 itemized contributions, 23 came from the 78757 ZIP code that surrounds Northcross Mall, seemingly indicating that anger over the Wal-Mart proposed for that property may be the only hook on which he can hang his campaign hat.

– Lee Nichols

PLACE 3

Looking through **Randi Shade**’s list of campaign donors, one could assume that either a large number of City Hall insiders are completely bowled over by Shade’s policy and political savvy or they’re extremely eager to boot out the sitting council member, **Jennifer Kim**, whom they helped elect in her first bid, before she got crosswise with them. Of course, both scenarios could apply. Shade surpassed Kim in fundraising between Jan. 1 and March 31, collecting \$96,487 to Kim’s \$84,284. While it’s true that Shade’s contributors include an assortment of big wheels in development and Downtown circles (Stratus developer CEO **Beau Armstrong**, land-rights lawyer **Mike McKetta**, Real Estate Council of Austin’s **Tim Hendricks**), they also include well-off progressive Dems (such as former SafePlace Director **Kelly White** and husband/banker **Bill McLellan**), arts leaders (Zach Theatre Artistic Director **Dave Steakley**), and activists in the gay and lesbian community, including a respectable share of Austin power lesbians – whose ranks would include Shade if she’s elected. (Not to dwell on the gay thing, but Kim, for her part, is also a friend of the GLBT community.)

Moving on, Kim’s development-friendly donors include the **Austin Apartment Association PAC** and architecture/engineering firm **Carter & Burgess PAC**, and developer/philanthropist **Tom Meredith**. Recently retired Public Works Director **Sondra Creighton** also showed up on Kim’s donor list, along with Texas Disposal Systems head **Bob Gregory** (the local alternative to rival waste giant Waste Management Inc.). Kim has also picked up support from the progressive ‘roots crowd (**Robin Rather**, **Brigid Shea**) that backed her opponent, Margot Clarke, three years ago. All told, Kim has raised \$141,000 since the start of the election cycle, while Shade has picked up \$158,000 in roughly the same time period. The two candidates’ spending totals are somewhat similar, with Kim dropping \$55,640 to Shade’s \$60,306 since Jan. 1. As things stand now, Shade has the most money left in the campaign till – \$103,125, according to her filings, compared to Kim’s \$74,088. A third candidate in the Place 3 race, **Ken Weiss**, reported contributions of \$290 between January and March.

– Amy Smith

PLACE 4

In the crowded Place 4 race, **Laura Morrison** has collected the most endorsements, but **Cid Galindo** is hauling in the most cash. In the latest campaign-finance reports, Galindo took in \$82,750. Highlights include \$300 contributions from the firefighters and police PACs, which endorsed Galindo early, plus contributions from several Downtown and development types, including boosters **Andrew Clements** and **Charles Heimsath**, and Real Estate Council of Austin members **Tim Hendricks** and **Terry Mitchell**. Law firm **Brown McCarroll** contributed \$300 from its own PAC plus \$300 from the firm, while Galindo patriarch **Ramiro Galindo** chipped in \$600 with his wife. It’s a far cry from his Jan. 15 reports, which only tallied \$7,350 in contributions. He’s spent more than \$56,340, with \$26,620 of that going to Fero Hewitt Global, firm of consultant and unmasked Internet troll **Kelly Fero**; the bulk went to ad buys, now omnipresent on News 8 Austin. Fero told political newsletter *In Fact Daily*, “We agreed to part so that he wouldn’t have to answer for any fallout from the [Terry Keel/AustinPoliticalReport.com] controversy.” Galindo goes forward with \$26,406 in the bank.

Morrison brought in more than \$40,000, roughly the size of her first fundraising pass, and has bolstered that with an additional \$40,000 loan to herself. Her contributors list reads like a who’s who of Austin libs: Save Our Springs’ **Colin Clark**, former council candidate **Margot Clarke**, County Commissioner **Sarah Eckhardt**, developer **Perry Lorenz**, former Council Member **Brigid Shea**, American Civil Liberties Union gadfly **Debbie Russell**, and Liveable City’s **Susan Moffat** and **Robin Rather**.

Robin Cravey places third, raising more than \$24,000 this reporting period. However, he’s spent more than \$22,000 – more than \$5,000 going to his daughter and campaign manager, Emma Cravey – leaving just over \$1,500 cash on hand. He’s also loaned himself just under \$2,000. Perennial candidate **Jennifer Gale** reaped \$48 in nonitemized contributions and a \$500 loan; real estate locator **Ken Vasseau** garnered \$10 while spending almost \$1,100 on signs out of a \$2,500 loan to himself. As of press time, **Sam Osemene** deigned not to file a report.

– Wells Dunbar

COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST MEEKER

At press time, the *Chronicle* learned that former political consultant and lobbyist **Mike Blizzard** – who says he’s a supporter of City Council Place 1 incumbent **Lee Leffingwell** but not affiliated with his re-election campaign – has filed a complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission against Leffingwell’s challenger **Jason Meeker** and Meeker’s former campaign treasurer **Rick Culleton**. The complaint alleges that ads placed in the past two issues of the *Chronicle* by Culleton violate state campaign laws. For more details, see our News-desk blog at austinchronicle.com/newsdesk.

– L.N.

UPCOMING CANDIDATE FORUMS

The procession of City Council candidate forums continues. This week:

- The Ethics Review Commission (moderated by League of Women Voters): Thursday, April 17, 6-9pm (live broadcast on cable Channel 6); City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. Second.
- Travis Co. Libertarian Party: Saturday, April 19, 4pm; Ventana del Sol, 1834 E. Oltorf.
- Trash, Recycling & Zero Waste Candidate Forum: Tuesday, April 22, 6:30pm; Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle Rd.
- Milwood Neighborhood Association: Tuesday, April 22, 7pm; Milwood Library, 12500 Amherst Dr.
- Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association: Wednesday, April 23, 6:30-9pm, the Austin Club, 110 E. Ninth.
- Capital Area Democratic Women: Thursday, April 24, 11:30am; Nuevo Leon, 1501 E. Sixth.

Early voting for the May 10 election runs from Monday, April 28, through Tuesday, May 6.

WILL CANDIDATES FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT?

Austin Interfaith, the local branch of the **Industrial Areas Foundation**, will again hold an “accountability session” wherein it asks candidates for **Austin City Council** and for the **Austin Community College** and **Austin Independent School District** boards to commit to its agenda of fighting poverty and building up the middle class. The forum will be held Sunday, April 20, 7pm, at St. Ignatius Martyr Parish, 2309 Euclid (near South Congress and Oltorf). The accountability session differs from other candidate forums in that, rather than listening to the candidates, Interfaith expects the candidates to listen to it – leaders of the group lay out their programs and then ask candidates to give a “yes” or “no” commitment to getting onboard. (However, the group does not make endorsements.) “Austin’s middle class is shrinking,” says **Russ Louch** of St. Albert the Great Catholic church, a member institution. “This is unacceptable in a county with the highest level of property wealth in the state and whose median income is higher than the national average.”

– L.N.

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Where You Can Stick Your Styrofoam

I had been hoarding Styrofoam for months because I'd heard in passing, like some enviro-urban legend, that there was a company somewhere in Austin that actually recycled the ever-ubiquitous white foam. Luckily, considering all the bulky garbage bags full of restaurant to-go containers and odd-shaped packing materials I'd amassed, the rumor turned out to be true. **Cycled Plastics**, located near the corner of Burnet Road and Rutland, does indeed recycle Styrofoam – in addition to virtually all other types of plastics. But their operation, founded in 1991 by **Adam Mosier**, differs substantially from the type of recycling the public generally sees, as the majority of the materials they process arrive by the truckload from industrial sources.

Cycled Plastics' facility is half cavernous warehouse and half roaring factory: Forklifts unload 18-wheelers and stack giant crates of plastics according to type, density, and color. One machine shreds, washes, and dries No. 2 and 3 plastic bottles (think laundry detergent) and dispenses what looks like rainbow confetti. An even louder machine grinds and melts dark-colored foam and plastic bags, screens it for dirt, and pumps out what looks like spaghetti, which is then cut into pellets, dried, and boxed. The pellets, which resemble deep-purple-colored lentils, are sold by the 40,000-pound truckload, said managing partner **Mike Largent**, and they're "the highest-end recycled material a manufacturer is going to buy."

Instead of simply collecting, sorting, and bundling recyclables, Cycled Plastics sets itself apart by actually turning plastics back into food for new plastic items on-site. "We're interested in diverting materials from the landfill and finding solutions for how we can process them into raw goods," said Largent. He receives plastic from all types of businesses, ranging from furniture retailers left with loads of packing materials to manufacturers left with postindustrial plastic containers. "Over the last two or three years," he said, "companies that generate waste are thinking more about what they're throwing away." That's especially good news for Largent, who said that at the same time, "there's a drive on the plastics-manufacturing side to use more postconsumer materials as a result of an increased focus on the environment."

Differentiating recycling from downcycling, Largent explained that plastics have what's known as a "heat history," meaning that each time one is melted down, it loses strength. Manufacturers can create new, downcycled items – like reusable shopping bags made from plastic bottles – with up to 90% recycled content. But in order to maintain



JOHN ANDERSON

- The following items are accepted at Cycled Plastics' public drop-off site, 10200 McKalla Place #100, open Monday-Friday, 7am-5pm.
- Packaging foams free of dirt or food contamination (EPS No. 6, PP No. 5, LDPE No. 4)
 - No. 2 HDPE bottles that have been rinsed with caps removed
 - No. 1 PET bottles that have been rinsed with caps removed
 - No. 2 HDPE flowerpots that have been lightly washed to remove most of the dirt
 - No. 4 LDPE bags that have had no food contact and have no paper contamination (labels, stickers)

the same use, like making recycled shopping bags into new shopping bags, the postconsumer plastic must be combined with at least 25% virgin plastic.

In May, when the city begins collecting plastic bags curbside as part of a new 5,000-home pilot program, the bags will head to Cycled Plastics. According to Austin **Solid Waste Services** (which joins Whole Foods Market, Walgreens, Wal-Mart, HEB, and Randalls as part of the city-organized coalition working to boost reusable-bag use and disposable-bag recycling), 1.6 million pounds of plastic bags were bought and distributed between January and June 2006; of that number, 215,000 pounds were collected for recycling. Largent said other city-run plastic-bag-recycling efforts have been complicated by heavy contamination from trash, other recyclables, and debris. The solution to this problem, he believes, is in public-private partnerships that can deal with multiple

types of waste. Such partnerships may play a crucial role in Austin's efforts to send **zero waste** (or darn close to it, as experts say) to landfills by 2040.

Largent hopes in the future to see manufacturers and distributors working with their upstream suppliers to standardize industrywide packaging. Computer housings, for example, are often made from a mix of plastics that vary by manufacturer and model, he said, which means they can't be processed together on a large scale by outfits like Cycled Plastics; instead, they often must be shipped to markets overseas. Meanwhile, Largent said, Cycled Plastics has surplus capacity and stands ready to assist Austin further. "We recognize that we're unique and that we're in an atmosphere where people are trying to be sustainable and green. We'd love to find new ways to go outside what's being done and divert more waste." For more info, see www.cycledplastics.com. – Daniel Mottola

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110 North I-35, Ste. 250	Round Rock	(512)244-4363
5324 Cameron Rd.	(Same center as Gage Furniture)	452-2200
13492 Research Blvd.	(183 & Anderson Mill Rd.)	258-8181
600 William Cannon		462-3868
409 W. Front St. #100, Hutto		759-4300
850 N. Bell #304	Cedar Park	(512)258-4990
11126 Jollyville Rd.	(at Balcones Woods Dr.)	346-8845
920 B. N. Austin Ave.	Georgetown	(512)930-0666
12218 N. 620		257-0057
4005 W. Parmer Lane, Unit C, Silver Creek Center		339-0401
8400 Brodie Lane #101, 78745		291-1588
3810 Gattis School Road #102, 78664		244-3733

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*Former Austin
Neighborhoods
Council president*

Laura Morrison is the only Place 4 candidate with a track record of open, inclusive decision making, and a demonstrated willingness to stand up to Council's growth-at-any-cost policies.



JASON MEEKER
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Yogurt Shop Murder New DNA evidence spells trouble for state

A lawyer for yogurt shop defendant **Robert Springsteen** says that retested DNA evidence proves his client is not guilty and should be released from prison. In a writ filed Wednesday, attorney **Joe James Sawyer** argues that “new” DNA testing of a vaginal swab taken from victim **Amy Ayers** at the crime scene in 1991, requested by prosecutors, has revealed a previously undetected male DNA profile that does not match any of the four identified defendants. “This exonerates Defendant Springsteen and makes it clear someone else committed these murders,” Sawyer wrote. (See the full writ with this story at austinchronicle.com.)

The motion was filed less than 24 hours after a court hearing Tuesday in which Travis Co. District Judge **Mike Lynch** said he would order prosecutors to turn over for additional DNA testing a raft of physical evidence collected in the infamous murder case. Dexter Gilford, part of the defense team representing **Michael Scott** – one of four then-teenage boys accused of the grisly 1991 quadruple murder – argued that the defense should be afforded the same ability to test key pieces of physical evidence that the state has enjoyed for nearly 17 years. “[We want] equal access to testing of evidence that the state saw fit to test, as well,” Gilford said.

On Dec. 6, 1991, four teen girls were found inside a North Austin yogurt shop, stripped, bound, gagged, shot in the head, and burned, in a fire that police said was set to cover up the crime. Indictments were not brought until eight years later, when Travis Co. District Attorney **Ronnie Earle** announced that the perpetrators had finally been nabbed. Four young men, he proclaimed, were responsible for the brutal crime, including Springsteen, who was tried and convicted of the murder of 13-year-old Ayers in 2001, and Scott, convicted in 2002. A third defendant, **Maurice Pierce** – whom prosecutors said was the “mastermind” behind the murders – was indicted by a grand jury, but after he spent years in jail, Earle finally dismissed the charges against him in 2003, citing a lack of evidence. The case against the fourth, **Forrest Welborn**, was also dropped after two grand juries failed to indict him.

The state’s case against the four is almost entirely circumstantial, relying heavily on two “confessions” provided by Springsteen and Scott, obtained by Austin police in 1999 after lengthy, and arguably coercive, interviews during which the two, separately, incriminated not only themselves but also each other for the crime. (To be clear, Springsteen and Scott were not the only two to confess; police collected at least 50 confessions – some far more compelling in detail than those of the defendants.) But the state fudged the law by using portions of one man’s confession as evidence in the

trial against the other, denying each defendant’s Sixth Amendment right to confront witnesses against him. In 2004, the U.S. Supreme Court, in an unrelated case, ruled that confrontation was the only way to satisfy the Sixth Amendment, and eventually the courts overturned both Springsteen’s and Scott’s convictions, booting the cases back to Travis Co. for further proceedings – but without the ability to bolster their cases by placing into evidence the confession of a nontestifying co-defendant. (Both men recanted the substance of their statements and maintain their innocence.)

Importantly, there was no physical evidence found at the crime scene directly linking any of the defendants to the murders. There are fingerprints, for example, that have never been matched to anyone. The existence of physical evidence belonging to persons unknown has long been a key to the defense and was at the center of arguments during a pretrial hearing Tuesday.

At issue now are eight pieces of clothing found on or near the bodies of the four murdered girls – including two shirts, several socks, a pair of underwear, and a brassiere, items identified by investigators as having been used as ligatures or gags. Previous testing on the items appears to have been minimal and, perhaps, dated – Assistant D.A. Darla Davis, who prosecuted both Springsteen and Scott, testified Tuesday that possible biological evidence was found on several items but that analysts were not then able to obtain any conclusive DNA from that evidence. Still, it is hard to tell if the state simply didn’t pursue the testing to an end (after all, they were adamant that they had their men) or if the science was not then evolved enough to provide any definitive result – for example, a pink turtleneck tested positive in a presumptive test for semen, but analysts did not perform tests to confirm that result.

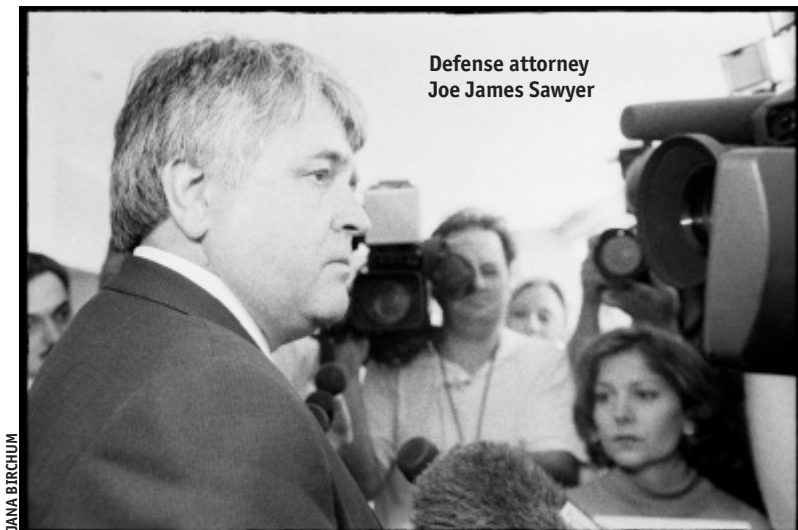
Clearly, neither the state nor the defense knows what, if anything, might be found from additional testing. But the state has been vociferous against further testing. According to the state’s argument – made by assistant district attorneys Efrain De La Fuente and Gail Van Winkle, who are handling Scott’s retrial – the minute that evidence in state custody is actually admitted as evidence during trial, it is suddenly degraded, because so many people have handled it. (Notably none of the reporters in court this week could recall colleagues being allowed to paw through the evidence.)

In short, the state appears to be arguing that the only reliable evidence is their evidence – including DNA tests dating back, in some instances, to the early Nineties. The argument is troubling for numerous reasons – not least of which is that under their theory, it would seem impossible for the D.A.’s office ever to agree to post-conviction testing, as allowed by law, to correct miscarriages of justice. Davis told the *Chronicle* that there is no official policy concerning additional testing and that prosecutors consider these things on a case-by-case basis.

Of course, there is, perhaps, one additional explanation for the state’s position in this particular case: The fact that the retesting of the vaginal swab collected from 13-year-old Ayers has revealed a DNA profile of an unknown male – a piece of evidence that would seemingly further erode the already wobbly case against Springsteen and Scott. Indeed, if additional testing of other pieces of evidence happened to reveal the same unknown profile, the state’s case might completely unravel. Ultimately, Judge Lynch rejected the state’s argument, allowing defense attorneys access to the list of physical evidence they requested, though it’s uncertain whether any as-yet-unrevealed evidence would be admissible at trial. Meanwhile, Scott’s new trial, which was slated to begin next month, will be postponed until testing is complete.

– Jordan Smith

Defense attorney
Joe James Sawyer



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4/25 - 1964 The Tribute
4/28 - My Chemical Romance
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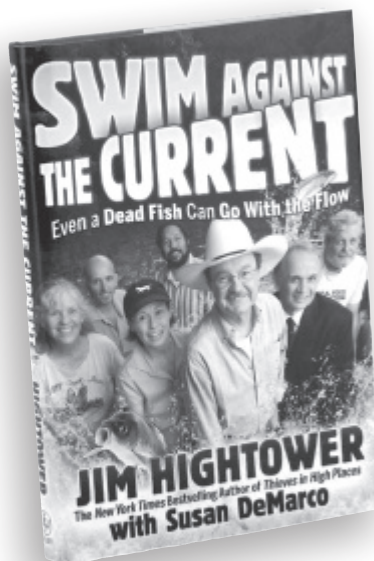
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HAPPENINGS

For more events, see Community Listings, p.80.

THURSDAY 17

KILOWATT OURS Celebrate Earth Day early with a showing of *Kilowatt Ours*, a doc all about how easy saving energy can be. Music and discussion follow. 6-9pm. *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress. \$5 donation. www.rutamaya.net.

FRIDAY 18

LOUIS GREGORY RACE UNITY SYMPOSIUM convenes for a day of workshops on **Racial Harmony: From the Personal to the Global**. Historian Richard Thomas delivers the keynote address. 12:30-5:30pm. *Huston-Tillotson University*, 900 Chicon. Free. www.austinbahai.org.

MARIJUANA LAW FOR MUSICIANS A workshop with attorney Charlie Roadman. 7-8:30pm. *Mohawk*, 912 Red River, 472-1113. Free. www.roadmanlaw.com, www.myspace.com/marijuanalaw.

WATER CONSERVATION CONFERENCE Register at www.texaswatermatters.org/state_water_conference_2008.htm. 8:30am-4pm. *Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center*, 4801 La Crosse. \$35.

SATURDAY 19

AMERICAN HEROES AIR SHOW Sat., April 19, 9am-4pm. *Camp Mabry*, 35th & MoPac. Free. www.heroes-airshow.com.

GROWING GREEN Learn xeriscaping from John Gleason. 10:30am. *Howson Branch Library*, 2500 Exposition, 974-7400. Free.

HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND: STEPS FOR SUCCESS A day of hands-on instruction with college preparation and the application process. 8:30am-2pm. *Akins High School*, 10701 S. First. Free. www.hsf.net.

LIVING GREEN FESTIVAL An Earth Day celebration brought to you by the Austin Farmers' Market and Austin Green Art. 9am-6pm. *Republic Square Park*, Fourth & Guadalupe. Free. www.austinearthday.com.

YARD SALE FOR NOLA Help 30 area students raise funds for a community building trip to New Orleans. 7am-noon. *United Christian Church*, 3500 W. Parmer. church@uccaustin.org.

SUNDAY 20

RACISM DISCUSSION with Chip Smith, author of *The Cost of Privilege: Taking on the System of White Supremacy and Racism*. 6pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

CHRISTIAN VALUES IN POLITICAL PARTIES 2pm. *University Christian Church*, 2007 University Ave. Free. www.uccforums.org.

ECO HOME TOUR Tour green homes throughout Austin; see www.ecoseriesaustin.com for details. 1:30-6pm. 468-4772. Free.

MONDAY 21

PARKLAND DONATION CASE-STUDY How did Irvine, Calif., finagle a donation of 1,300 acres of land and \$400 million for a park? And how can we do that in Austin? A talk from Irvine Mayor Pro Tem Larry Agran. 6pm. *Huston-Tillotson University*, *Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium*, 900 Chicon, 505-3125. Free.

TUESDAY 22

DUMP THE PUMP Bring five plastic bags, and try public transportation the morning of Earth Day, and you can exchange them for a reusable iRide bag. See www.capmetro.org for a list of exchange sites. 5-8am.

FAITH BASED RESPONSE TO EARTH DAY Mayor Will Wynn talks up the Austin Climate Protection Plan, followed by a conversation on faith-based responses to environmental issues. 7pm. *Central Christian Church*, 1110 Guadalupe, 476-6941. Free.

UT EARTH DAY EXTRAVAGANZA 10am-3pm. *UT campus*. Free.

THURSDAY 24

TEXAS SOLAR FORUM Thu.-Fri., April 24-25. *Capitol building*. Free. www.texassolarforum.com.

UNDERAGE DRINKING PREVENTION TASK FORCE The National Safety Council's Donald Moseman speaks on his agency's efforts to combat underage drinking. Thu., April 24, 10:30am-1pm. *Howson Library*, 2500 Exposition, 854-4229.



THE COMMON TOUCH LEAVING CRAWFORD

There's nothing like watching a candidate trying the "I'm just like you, the common voting hoi polloi" schtick when pandering for votes.

Ever since Sen. **Barack Obama's** "bitter" comment, Sens. **Hillary "I Loves Me a Crown Royal" Clinton** and **John "I Heart Bush's Tax Breaks for Billionaires" McCain** have been feigning the common touch. Now for years, the king of adopted down-home-isms has been the commander in chief himself. Look at him now, clearing brush. Here's another photo op ... of him clearing brush. He has a ranch, you know! But according to Waco's KWTX, President **George W. Bush** won't actually be retiring to his ranch in Crawford. No, turns out that the Connecticut Cowboy will actually be spending his twilight years in Dallas. Hey, maybe he still has a box at Rangers Ballpark.

Now far be it for Newsdesk to suggest that Dubya bought the Prairie Chapel Ranch in 1999 (just before his presidential run) to remake this Andover-educated Yale Skull and Bonesman as scrub-clearing reg'lar folk for the press. That point is made with greater force by the population of Crawford in the documentary called, erm, **Crawford**, which debuted at South by Southwest this year. Many of them saw through the stage act years ago.
- Richard Whittaker



Christmastime for Big Bend

Texas Land Commissioner **Jerry Patterson** has made good on his promise to allow better access to the **Christmas Mountains Ranch**, the remote stretch of West Texas maintained by the **General Land Office** that he had originally planned to sell to private owners. After rejecting two private bids for the property on Feb. 5, he ordered staff to draft a permanent easement between the 9,269-acre stretch of arid backcountry and neighboring **Big Bend National Park**: This allows visitors to the park to walk straight across onto the range. On April 7, Patterson signed the easement and sent a copy to park Superintendent **Bill Wellman**.

Calling the step "a victory for the public will," Environment Texas Director **Luke Metzger** said, "Think back to last

September, when it looked like it was going to be sold off, and now it's open to the public." Access has always been a core issue with this remote property. Only 1 mile of the range's 19-mile boundary adjoins Big Bend, the rest being surrounded by private owners. But the easement gives hikers and campers a new route into the range through the back end of the park. "This hasn't changed a lot from our standpoint, because you were always allowed to hike to the border," said Big Bend's public information officer, **David Elkowitz**. "The main change is on their end."

The easement is seen by many as an incremental step toward eventually adding the range to the park. A sale to the **National Park Service** is supported by many groups, including the **Conservation**

Fund, which originally donated the land to Texas. But the sticking point remains Patterson's commitment to allowing hunting on the property. While the NPS does allow limited hunting on a handful of tracts nationwide, its standard policy is no guns in parks. Patterson, a gun-rights advocate, has pushed for NPS to allow hunts there if it takes ownership or to change its overall policy (unlikely, since seven former NPS national directors, including President George W. Bush appointee **Fran Mainella**, recently sent a letter to the Department of the Interior opposing any rule change). Patterson's alternative is transferring it to another federal agency, such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service or U.S. Forest Service, that allows hunting on its property.

- R.W.

TEXAS PREGNANCY CARE NETWORK PROVES UNIMPRESSIVE

After two fiscal years of funding, Texas' **Alternatives to Abortion** program remains "grossly inefficient and expensive," according to a report released Wednesday by **NARAL Pro-Choice Texas**.

In 2005, lawmakers approved a budget rider penned by Sen. **Tommy Williams**, R-The Woodlands, allowing for \$5 million over the biennium to be diverted from traditional providers of comprehensive family-planning health-care services to so-called "crisis pregnancy centers," unlicensed and unregulated groups typically funded and run by organizations that are vociferous foes of abortion. The groups provide "counseling" and "support" services to pregnant women - often steering them to other taxpayer-funded programs, like food stamps or workforce services. Indeed, in order to qualify for the funding, grantees must pledge not to "promote, refer, or perform abortions" (even though it is already ille-

gal to use public money to provide abortions). The kitty was eventually awarded to the **Texas Pregnancy Care Network**, a nonprofit that was created in August 2005 in order to take advantage of the newly created funding stream (by four individuals without any previous experience running a nonprofit entity).

To date, the TPCN has received some \$3.6 million to administer the program - 44% of which (\$1.4 million) has been spent on administrative costs, notes the new Texas NARAL report. And although TPCN initially identified more than 200 crisis pregnancy centers across the state with whom it could contract for services, by the end of fiscal year 2007, it had signed on just 15 providers. In all, over the two fiscal years, TPCN provided services to just 3,900 women - mostly unlicensed "counseling" but no actual medical services - at a cost of about \$450 per woman served. Over the same period, family-planning provid-

ers - capable of providing actual medical services, including pregnancy counseling and prenatal health care - served 500,000 Texas women, at an average cost of \$174 per woman. At press time, TPCN Executive Director Vincent Friedewald had not responded to requests for comment.

"After two years of operation, clearly this experimental program has failed," said Sen. **Judith Zaffirini**, D-Laredo. CPCs have "failed pregnant women by neglecting to provide recommended health and social services and failed pro-life supporters by directing funds away from the health-care safety net that prevents unintended pregnancies and abortions. We need to redirect these funds to evidence-based programs that improve women's health." (To see NARAL's report, visit www.prochoicetexas.org; for more on TPCN, see "No Real Alternative," Jan. 26, 2007.)

- Jordan Smith

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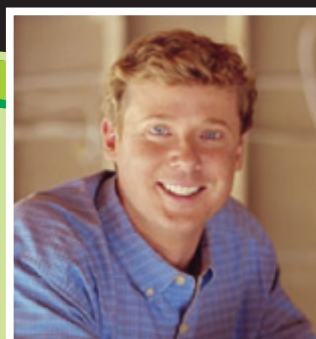
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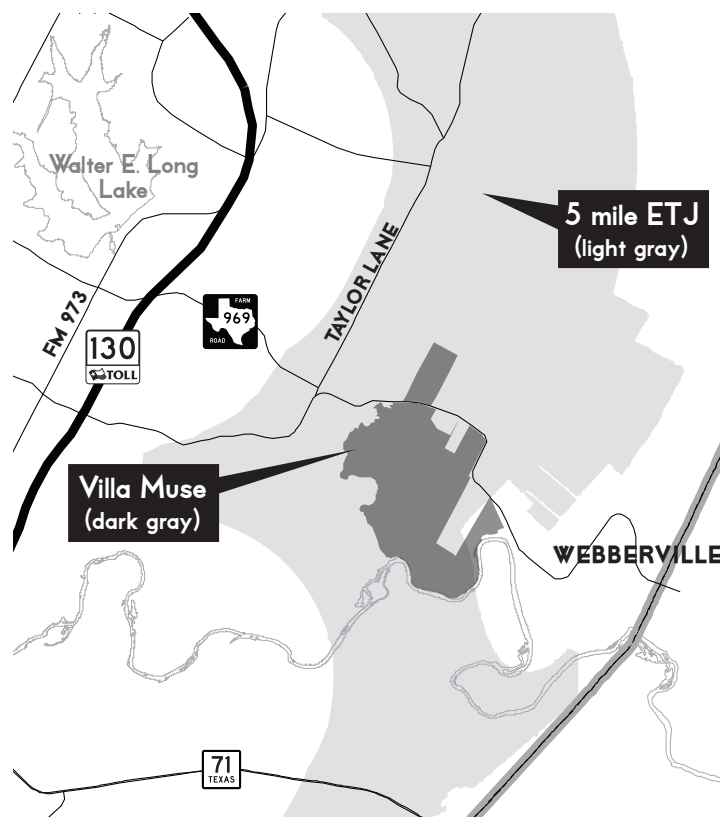
Villa Muse Take two

On March 6, the group behind the proposed **Villa Muse** studios and residential development in eastern Travis Co. confronted the city of Austin with an ultimatum: to release their 2,000-acre project from the planning restraints of the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction, or they would take it elsewhere. Failure to do so, Villa Muse said, would endanger the project because of the "added time, cost, and risk of building within the ETJ." At its meeting, the council split 4-3 against the release, but the plan isn't dead. While Villa Muse confirms it's in talks with other, unnamed cities around the state, the studio group still has options to buy the property and is still in negotiations with Austin. And city staffers are still under council instructions to keep working toward a solution.

"One of the things we've always liked about this proposal is the proposal," said Assistant City Manager **Laura Huffman**, who describes the plan as "extremely consistent with our visions of the [State Highway 130] development corridor." However, she points out, releasing the development from the ETJ would mean the city would have no control over what ends up on the property in an area the city will almost inevitably annex. "These are about concerns 20, 30, 40 years down the road," said Huffman, arguing that the city is being sensibly cautious. City staff and the Environmental Board were against the release, while the Planning Commission made no recommendation. Even Council Member **Brewster McCracken**, who voted for the release, made an alternate proposal that would have set some benchmarks for the developers. Part of the problem, Huffman suggests, is that Villa Muse created an arbitrary "now or never" deadline on March 6. "So many of the things they're asking for can be done within the current regulations," she said.

In a battle of acronyms, the city had proposed placing the area in a PUD (public utility district) or PID (public improvement district). In response, Villa Muse proposed establishing a less-restrictive MUD (municipal utility district), but for the city, this was a nonstarter, since any deal made with the developers would not be binding on the MUD, and the whole development could change completely. "Say there was an anchor facility, like a film studio that would create so many jobs. A MUD would not be bound to do that," said Huffman.

One of the biggest supporters of Villa Muse, and of its release from the ETJ, has been state Rep. **Dawna Dukes**. According to Dukes' chief of staff, Pamela McPeters, Dukes was originally approached by **Jay Podolnick** in March 2007; he was supportive of her work on House Bill 1634, the **Texas Moving Image Industry Incentive** bill, and got her involved in speaking in favor of the studio development (Podolnick has also become a Dukes donor, giving \$4,075 to her campaign last year; previously, he had only donated in state-level races to Republicans – Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, and Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson – and independents such as Carole Keeton Strayhorn). On Feb. 21 of this year, Podolnick e-mailed McPeters, declaring that, "March 6 is our drop-dead date for the city of Austin to decide if they want us or not. I could do with some help in filling the chamber with supporters that evening." (The next day, a posting on Villa Muse's own blog said, "we have not announced a 'drop-dead' date for Austin.") In response, McPeters told him, "I will work on getting some supporters to the chamber," but she says she actually didn't get around to anything. "I don't see how we would know anybody in the film com-



munity that they wouldn't," she said, adding that Dukes was just being supportive of her constituents.

However, Dukes has been a vocal proponent. On March 18, Dukes argued that the council vote was actually a reversal of the city's stance. She told supporters that in the last legislative session, the city had drafted legislation – Senate Bill 1688 – that, "when you look at the very last reiteration of the bill that is on the House calendar, drew Villa Muse out of the ETJ completely." Dukes, when interviewed after the rally, said Huffman was part of these negotiations and had no complaints at the time. "If there was no issue presented by the city of Austin, who was the sponsor of the bill through the senator [Kirk Watson], then why are questions raised at this time?" Dukes asked.

But both Huffman's and Watson's offices say that SB 1688 (which never reached the House floor) had nothing to do with ETJs. The failed bill dealt with construction around SH 130 and, as it left the Senate, allowed municipalities to establish transportation infrastructure districts. These districts, according to the draft, would have set "regulations regarding drainage and flood control, and ... implement assessments and impact fees to pay for infrastructure" and would have run up to 5 miles out from the toll road or to the limits of the ETJ, whichever was closer. By the time the committee substitute came out of the House Transportation Committee, that boundary had shrunk to 2 miles, but there was no alteration to the Austin ETJ. "That was not part of 1688," said Huffman. "The Villa Muse people asked for them to be carved out of the bill, but it would not affect the ETJ."

– Richard Whittaker

AN INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Would Villa Muse be the savior of the local economy and the Texas film industry? That's what its backers claim, and they present some impressive statistics to back it up. An economic-impact study performed for Villa Muse by the Waco-based **Perryman Group** estimated that, when completed, the development could generate anywhere from \$258 million to \$740 million net revenue and add from 40,000 to 110,000 jobs worth between \$6.5 billion and \$20.2 billion to the Central Texas economy. How did they reach those conclusions? According to Perryman Group founder and President Ray Perryman: "We did a range of possible scenarios for it. One of them was, 'What if we got the average of 50 percent of what California got in the next wave of film making?'" Another worked from Texas attracting 8% of U.S. film production (its total share of the U.S. economy) rather than the 2% it currently attracts.

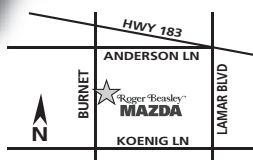
But other states are also aggressively pursuing film production by using major incentive programs. On its website, Villa Muse cites **Texas Film Commission** Director **Bob Hudgins** as "urging us to move at an accelerated – almost lightning – pace to complete Villa Muse Studios within two to three years because of these competitive forces."

Hudgins argues that without a proven and effective incentive program, the studio at Villa Muse would face the same problems as the rest of the Texas film industry: a talent drain to other states with major incentive programs, which has already led to 20% of the state's technicians working in Louisiana and New Mexico. "One of the reasons they need to move quickly is that we're losing our capacity to compete, and the more people we lose, the harder it is for us to get that capacity back," said Hudgins. While Texas is one of the few states with three major production centers, if the state's new incentive program pays off and "business takes an up-turn, we'll need more facilities," he added. But as for Villa Muse's claims on its website, Hudgins suggests they may need a little context. "When I'm speaking, I'm primarily talking about a need for a really effective incentive program, which they're construing as relating to their project." As for the deadline, Hudgins said that Villa Muse "put themselves in a box as to the urgency with the city of Austin." – R.W.

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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

A CEO PERK FOR CEO PERKS

You know what really gets me PO'd? Having to pay taxes on the free personal trips that I take on my company's corporate jet.

Oh ... wait. We don't have a corporate jet. Still, I empathize – as I'm sure you do – with fat-cat CEOs of big corporations who are happy to get free personal use of the company airplane but are furious that they then have to pay taxes on the value of the rides they take. Our "intrusive" government, you see, counts free jet rides, company-paid country-club dues, and other executive perks as extra compensation, which, therefore, is taxable.

Luckily, however, America's clever CEO class has found some suckers to whom they can pass this unwelcome tax tab: shareholders. Top corporate executives have devised a new perk for themselves with the appropriate name of "gross-up." What it means is that the company – i.e., the rank-and-file shareholders – pays the taxes that the honchos owe on their freebies. It's a perk for receiving perks. See, in CEO land, you can have your cake and eat it, too!

Never mind that CEOs of major corporations now average some \$15 million each in yearly pay. With that kind of cash, you'd think they could spring for their own tickets to Aspen or Paris or at least cover their own income-tax obligations for receiving the free trip.

But, no, these are the pampered princes of modern commerce, so the rules of personal responsibility don't apply to them. A study by a watchdog group called the Corporate Library finds that 20% of the chieftains of major corporations are now taxing their shareholders for this gross-up perk.

For more information on the fun and games that CEOs play on shareholders, taxpayers, workers, and others, check with the Corporate Library: www.thecorporatelibrary.com.

WHY NOT 'DRINK LOCAL'?

In a triumph of marketing over reasoning, the bottled-water industry has turned us into conspicuously silly consumers.

Controlled by a handful of global conglomerates (such as Coca-Cola and Nestlé), the water industry has created the fantasy that if it's in a bottle, it's purer than what comes out of the tap. But wait – the Environmental Protection Agency stringently regulates the public water systems, requiring tests several times a day for bacteria and other contaminants, and these test results are public information. The corporate bottlers, on the other hand, are overseen by the more lackadaisical U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which requires them to test their water sources only once a week – and the results are kept secret by the corporations.


One group that is beginning to rebel is one you might not expect: upscale restaurants. Such places profit handsomely from offering Perrier, San Pellegrino, Fiji, or other designer waters, paying a dollar or 2 for each bottle and selling them for 8 or 10 bucks. Yet, Chez Panisse in Berkeley, Calif., and Del Posto in New York City are among the pioneers who are foregoing this profit center, substituting free filtered tap water or house-made sparkling water that's also drawn from the tap.

Why would they do this? Because they are part of a growing sustainable-food movement that prides itself in using local, seasonal ingredients for their menu items. Think about it: In terms of energy, environment, and sustainability, it makes no sense to load cargo ships with millions of bottles of water, haul them thousands of miles to our shores, truck them hundreds of miles to our restaurants, then chuck the bottles into our overloaded landfills – when the local, public water system supplies perfectly good water available at the turn of a faucet.

Just as it makes economic and environmental sense to "eat local," it also makes sense to "drink local."

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com.

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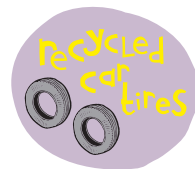
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Cool Austin, Cool Planet

This Earth Day, the ambitious Austin Climate Protection Plan celebrates a first year of slow, quiet, but impressive progress

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

It's been more than a year – do you know where your Austin Climate Protection Plan is?

If not, don't blame yourself. While the city of Austin indeed has been hard at work implementing the aggressive plan – launched by the mayor and adopted by City Council resolution on Feb. 15, 2007 – it has done little to communicate its progress publicly, engage the broader community in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, or broadcast Austin's work as an inspiration to other cities. Since the city hasn't been talking, it's been nearly impossible for citizens and environmental advocates to evaluate its progress. Predictably, such lack of transparency breeds doubt and cynicism. A red flag: In silence, a key one-year milestone goal came and went for the council resolution that called for a communitywide greenhouse-gas inventory, targets for communitywide emission reductions, and a comprehensive plan to achieve them. In fact, none of that work has yet been accomplished.

But after some substantial digging and prodding of city staff and the mayor, the reporting for this article turned up much solid progress to celebrate. (See "Austin Climate Protection Plan," p.34.) Many municipal goals established have been met and even exceeded. To cite but one shining example, Jennifer Walls, acting fleet officer, reports that by next month, 51% of all city vehicles will run using hybrid technology or alternative fuels (biodiesel, ethanol, compressed natural gas, or propane). The ACPP set a goal for the city fleet to become carbon neutral by 2020. "As vehicles become eligible for replacement, they'll be replaced by the best available technology on the market," noted Walls, who hopes to be buying plug-in hybrids by 2010. (Austin Energy's Plug-In Partners campaign has helped to create the market for them.) The city turns over about 10% of its fleet (400-500 vehicles) each year.

The lack of communication, and the city's failure to engage and involve the broader community to date, stems from several causes. First, there's the inherent unwieldiness of turning around a huge bureaucratic ship, plus a steep learning curve. Add to that a turnover in city managers and a small, underresourced ACPP staff. In-depth interviews with Mayor Will Wynn (see p.36), his aide Matt Watson, and lead city staff – Austin Energy General Manager Roger Duncan, ACPP Program Director Ester Matthews, and others – made clear the depth of their personal commitment and hard work on climate protection. It seems they just need to invite the rest of us into the tent.

At the launch, Wynn, former City Manager Toby Futrell, and others emphasized that the broadest power of our local municipal efforts would be to inspire other cities and groups to follow suit. But such leadership requires public communication about what Austin is doing. "The biggest weakness by far has been lack of communication," conceded Wynn. "Both as to

what the city operationally has been doing and then the whole community component of the plan. It's starting to become sort of blatant and obvious. The strength is in the details of what's actually occurred in some of the departments – measurable benefits, already. So my internal focus with the city manager and my colleagues, now, will be the communication piece."

Getting It Done

"Even though this is a global problem, each of us has an individual responsibility to help address the problem," stressed Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, in Austin recently for a Seattle Chamber of Commerce group visit. He noted that the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement he launched – now signed by cities representing 25% of the U.S. population, including Austin – creates citizen support for local expenditures, because it makes them part of a meaningful national effort. In an interview prior to a Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority presentation, Nickels compared Seattle's launch to our own.

"It took two years [2004-2005] to have the conversation in my city: What kind of city do you want to create?" asked Nickels. On Feb. 16, 2005, he issued a challenge for U.S. mayors and cities to meet the Kyoto Protocol chal-

and companies knowledgeable about solutions for climate protection – potential "plug-in partners" to the municipal effort. The ACPP office plans to expand the Climate Action Team to include community members in July.

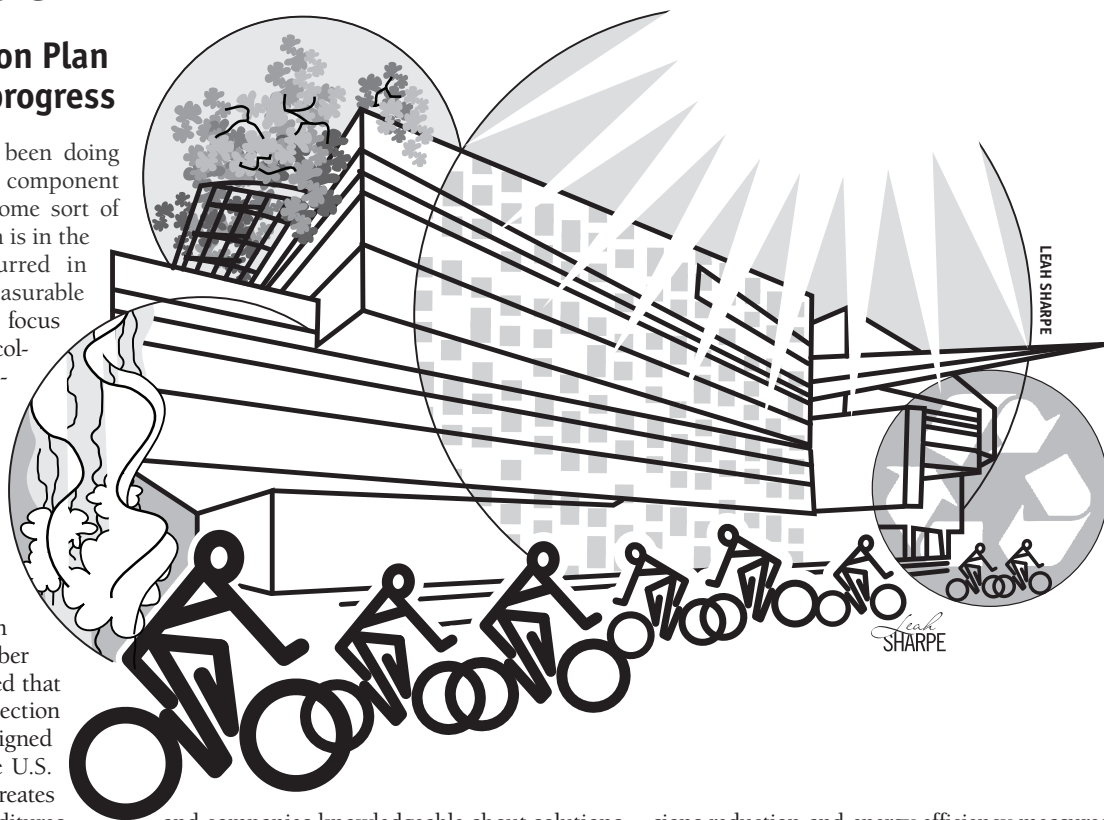
Austin's plan is closely modeled on Seattle's initiative. While we're a year or two behind them, we're ahead of nearly every other U.S. city. When our program was launched in early 2007, Futrell – despite being an advocate – didn't

sions-reduction and energy-efficiency measures. In time, the investment should be balanced or surpassed by municipal energy cost savings.

Only quite recently has an adequate ACPP staff been in place to start knocking out the actions called for in the plan. On the muni side, those include individual climate protection plans for each city department and an education program for the 12,000 city of Austin employees. On the community side, immediate goals include an informational website for Austin citizens – expected to launch this week – and a local carbon-footprint calculator and offset program. At Austin Energy, Roger Duncan – recently promoted to the utility's top director position – is planning a series of town hall meetings to involve citizens in making the critical decisions we face, regarding energy resources. Look for the public participation process for energy resource planning to start in May. As fossil fuels become increasingly scarce and expensive (with renewable, low-carbon energy not yet sufficiently available or affordable) the trade-offs are daunting indeed. As Duncan outlines the challenges, they'll require every ounce of communal ingenuity and attention that Austin can muster.

Of the city departments, said Matthews, only Austin Energy, Parks & Recreation, and the Austin Water Utility have completed detailed draft departmental climate action plans with base inventories. (She expects the other departments now to accelerate their progress with the support of her staff.) Those departments are the lower-hanging fruit: AE has long been a leader on green-building and energy efficiency, PARD is staffed with tree-huggers, and the Water Utility has benefited from the leadership of Daryl Slusher, who last year was tasked with making that department as environmentally progressive as Austin Energy. Other key city departments sending staff to

continued on p.34



OPERATION CLIMATE VOTE THE 100-DAY BLITZ

Environmental Defense Action Fund, a national nonprofit actively working for 2008 congressional action on global warming, last week launched a "100-Day Blitz" calling for widespread constituent pressure on the U.S. Senate to pass the Warner-Lieberman Climate Security Act and on the U.S. House to draft a companion bill.

"Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has given our allies a green light to take the Climate Security Act to the Senate floor during the first week of June," said Steve Cochran, director of Environmental Defense's National Climate Campaign. "We are very close to getting the 60 votes needed to pass the bill in the Senate. Forty-five senators are heavily for the bill, and 15 more have a strong tilt in our direction." With Congress scheduled to recess this summer and a November election looming, Cochran said, "The next four months will make or break our efforts to pass landmark global warming legislation in 2008."

To learn more or support the campaign, visit www.edf.org. The site offers a wealth of climate protection info and resources – including a wonderfully comprehensive compact fluorescent lightbulb guide.

– K.G.

lenges, in the absence of a federal sign-on. In April 2006, he issued recommendations for a Seattle climate protection program; that fall he went public with a formal plan (after first figuring out its implementation).

Said Nickels: "One of the first things we did was create the Seattle Climate Partnership" – a communitywide effort started by the city that's now being spun off as a nonprofit. They also rapidly launched a 20-member Green Ribbon Task Force, to engage business and corporate leaders. Austin, too, is rich in "green" citizens

scurry to immediately allocate the resources that its scope clearly required. Nor did council or Austin Energy request a budget amendment. As a result, only a skeleton staff was assigned to the program; Program Director Matthews and others retained their other job duties, which translated to slow progress. The nascent program had to wend its way through the city's normal budget cycle. But when the ACPP did finally gain its own annual budget on Oct. 1, it was a healthy \$1.25 million. That covers eight staff, an enhanced Green Building program, and emis-

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weekly interdepartmental Climate Action Team meetings include Watershed Protection Development Review, Neighborhood Planning and Zoning, Public Works, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, Solid Waste Services, and Purchasing.

The Water Utility is AE's No. 1 electricity consumer; the city cannot reach its emission-reduction goals without substantial changes at Austin Water Utility. That, in turn, requires greater water conservation by all Austinites. The inconvenient truth: Every household, company, and institution in Austin may need to reduce its water consumption – and its energy consumption and gasoline consumption – in order for the goals of the ACPP to be met.

While the city has set the high standards, the necessary rollback of local greenhouse-gas emissions can't be achieved through municipal efforts alone. It's the public who consumes the water and electricity that the city provides. So all Austinites need to reduce their consumption of those resources, in ways large and small.

Slusher shared his department's draft plan; the 16-page report makes clear the enormity of enacting a massive culture shift throughout the Water Utility's 40-some divisions and by all consumers. "Given the amount of electricity needed to treat water, and to a somewhat lesser extent wastewater, it will be a tremendous challenge for AWU to become carbon neutral as directed by the Climate Action Plan," the report states. "Doing so will require

an intensive effort on multiple fronts and will also require continuing advances in renewable energy." (Read the full report with this article at austinchronicle.com.) AWU has yet to publicly link water conservation with climate protection in a big way, but Slusher promised that once the city's new water conservation ordinance kicks in May 1; "A message shift is coming."

Our Determined Mayor

Meanwhile, what's the mayor been doing? Wynn says he's remained at arm's length from directing the ACPP's administration, as required by the separation of powers in the City Charter. As chairman of the board of Austin Energy, he's had a strong voice in

energy efficiency and strategic planning. But he hasn't always pressed to ensure that his specific directives are followed. For example, Wynn has asked repeatedly from the dais for all purchasing requests to come with climate protection notes – to his credit – but only fleet has complied fully, while other departments are allowed to slide.

The entire council could demonstrate stronger, more consistent attention to timely staff progress on their climate protection policy. Still, the number of major ACPP policy directives from council in the past year is impressive. They include resolutions to strengthen the city's Green Building program, increase sustainable building standards for all municipal projects (to a silver Leadership in Energy

Austin Climate Protection Plan Year One Highlights



JOHN ANDERSON

Ester Matthews,
ACPP director

MUNICIPAL PLAN

Make all city of Austin facilities, fleets, and operations totally carbon-neutral by 2020.

Action Item	Status
Secure new wind power and other renewable-energy contracts, sufficient to 100% power all city facilities by 2012.	GreenChoice Batch-6 becomes available for municipal use by end of 2008.
Build solar installations on all new and existing city facilities, where feasible.	Austin Energy has obtained city funding sufficient for the next eight years of solar installations.
Make entire city vehicle fleet carbon-neutral by 2020: 1) Convert existing vehicles to alternative fuels, and 2) purchase hybrids and new technologies.	New fueling stations for ethanol (E85, E10) and biodiesel will be ready for use by May '08. Vehicle purchases planned for FY 08: 155 biodiesel, 187 E85, 37 electric hybrid, 39 propane.

UTILITY PLAN

Make Austin Energy the leading utility in the nation for greenhouse-gas reductions.

Action Item	Status
Municipal: Reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions by all city departments and facilities.	All city departments are developing baseline energy-use audits, as well as energy efficiency/savings plans.
Public: Communitywide, reduce overall energy consumption to achieve 700 megawatts of new savings by 2020.	Developing overall Austin Energy plan to save an average 50 MWs, each of next 12 years, to meet 2020 goal. FY 07 savings: 65 MW.
Develop new renewable-energy plan, based on demand and market realities.	City to kick off Public Participation Plan, to gather community input and educate the public on options.
Accelerate Solar Rooftop Program	In eight-year capital improvement project plan. Installed to date: 1.6 MW.
Establish prior CO ₂ footprint, in order to establish a realistic CO ₂ cap-and-reduction plan.	CO ₂ emissions of AE in 2005-06 have been verified by California Climate Action Registry; Water Utility now in submission process.

This information is excerpted from the ACPP office's Report to City Council, April 2008, a comprehensive matrix showing the status of its initiatives. The report appears with this article at austinchronicle.com.



HOMES AND BUILDING PLAN

Implement the most energy-efficient building codes in the nation, and aggressively pursue energy-efficiency retrofits and upgrades to existing building stock.

Action Item	Status
New construction: Increase efficiency requirements by stages in 2007, 2009, 2012, and 2015, yielding a 65-75% improvement.	2007 goal achieved, took effect 2008.
Existing homes: Require energy-efficiency retrofits and upgrades at point of sale.	Task force meeting biweekly. Will report findings to council by June, develop ordinance by August, to be implemented by December 2008.
Green Building Program: 1) Strengthen with enhanced technical assistance, incentives, and standards, and 2) draft proposal to require two-star rating for all existing programs, policies, etc., and PUDs.	Sustainable City Building Resolution adopted November '07. Plan complete first quarter of 2008. Begin implementing phase one marketing plan first quarter of 2008. First through second quarter of 2008: Analyze existing programs, policies, etc., and prepare recommendations.

COMMUNITY PLAN

Through education, transportation, and land-use planning, reduce greenhouse-gas emissions citywide, by all citizens, in every activity.

Action Item	Status
Climate Action Team: City of Austin departments.	January '08: Ten city department liaisons began meeting bimonthly to discuss departmental plans and community plan.
Community advisory team: Expand the team to include community members and groups.	June/July '08: Form, meet monthly, and begin master inventory of GHG generated from all sources, communitywide.



GO NEUTRAL PLAN

Take Austin's net greenhouse-gas emissions down to zero by 2020.

Action Item	Status
Launch ACPP website.	Public launch April '08.
Develop local "carbon-footprint" calculator.	Launch by September '08.
Offer program for purchasing "carbon offset" credits; set up fund for city of Austin offsets.	First funds received from South by Southwest.
Fund carbon-offset projects of local nonprofits.	Contracting with Earth Share to distribute funding to nonprofits.

POLICY WATCH MILESTONES AHEAD

Target dates to track the city's implementation of the 2007 council policies that support climate protection:

Austin Energy: Town Hall Meetings

Involves the community in making tough energy-generation choices, through an Energy Resource Planning Public Participation Process. **Series: May-September**

Zero Energy Capable Homes

Requires that all new homes built be increasingly energy-efficient; by 2015, requires them to be capable (with the addition of solar panels) of consuming no net energy. Energy code successfully changed in 2007.

Next Energy Code amendments: 2009

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Task Force

Meeting biweekly. Upon sale of existing homes and buildings, new ordinance will require 1) energy-use disclosure and 2) retrofit to minimum energy-efficiency standards.

June: Task force report and recommendations to city manager

August: New ordinance at council

January: Ordinance in effect

Green Building Program: Upgrades

In progress. Goals: Raise required standard to two-star and apply uniformly and more broadly across zoning categories; expand requirements to more projects and apply to city affordable-housing programs. Require enhanced two-star for public utility district zoning. Offer certification for "carbon neutral" buildings.

By June: Recommendations and plan to be returned to council

Municipal Buildings: Sustainability

Initiative to ensure minimum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver construction for city buildings, greater consistency, etc. Addresses sustainable operations and maintenance for all municipal buildings.

By July: Incorporate into capital-improvement project tracking system; develop sustainability standards for small projects

Energy Depletion Risks Task Force

Meeting monthly. Citywide assessment and inventory of how city activities could be hurt by a decline in the supply of oil and natural gas. Recommendations (behind schedule) will go to council and city manager for strategic planning and reduced dependence on fossil fuels.

Fall: Report to council

and Environmental Design certification or higher), and create the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Task Force, the Zero Energy Capable Homes Task Force, and the public participation process for energy resource planning (see "Policy Watch," p.34). Most of those initiatives have come out of the mayor's office, shepherded by Wynn's hardworking climate protection right arm, Matt Watson.

Rather like a family giving up a son to military service, Austin has sent its mayor into the international fight against global warming. Speaking before House committees at the U.S. Congress, Wynn has called for a strong governmental response (culminating in the landmark Warner-Lieberman Climate Security Act, now moving through the Senate; see "Operation Climate Vote," p.32). He's similarly spoken out at a United Nations special session, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Western States Land Commissioners Association, last week's Congress for the New Urbanism in Austin, and in cities across Texas – as well as giving more than 50 persuasive presentations locally and plugging clean energy, energy efficiency, transit, and climate protection every chance he gets. He launched a national multimayor effort to increase building efficiencies through changes to the International Energy Conservation Code. The U.S. Department of Energy recently selected Wynn as keynote speaker (at their expense) for its first solar conference in Tucson.

But the record also shows that Wynn has been highly engaged here in Austin. Pressed for details, Watson provided a long list of mayoral actions. On land use and transportation – critical issues for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions locally and regionally – Wynn has advocated for transit, a central-city streetcar, and formation of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Working Group. He's worked hard to promote Downtown density as the most sustainable growth model. He's "inspired" all developers bringing a project before council to have their LEED certification plans in place and routinely negotiates higher green-building commitments. He's been quietly advancing a number of open-space preservations, natural areas and trails, and cycling infrastructure efforts. He's also been active in the Clean Air Coalition's Oak Grove coal plant fight and in creating tighter policies on coal-fueled electricity generation. He's pressed Congress to fund and fully award Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants – which Watson said could be worth up to \$20 million to Austin.

While public accountability is critical, it's sometimes too easy to point fingers at the mayor, council, and city staff. No Central Texan needs a formally engraved invitation from City Hall to step up and begin local action. In Seattle, dozens of small groups have popped up; many neighborhood associations have spawned sustainability teams. As Nickels observed: "As an individual, you can make a difference. What might be very difficult for us to do today will be very important to our children and our children's children – and that's worth whatever sacrifice we need to make."

Have suggestions for how the city of Austin should launch, build, and sustain a community plan for climate protection? E-mail them to: climateprotection@austinenenergy.com.

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Capital Metro is proposing to implement major route and schedule adjustments beginning August 24, 2008 (Fall).

Capital Metro Planning Staff will be available to speak directly with citizens regarding route or schedule issues. Citizens are encouraged to attend any of the following meetings or to contact Capital Metro by e-mail at planning@capmetro.org or by calling 474-1200.

Public Meetings:

• Tuesday, April 22, 2008 (Capital Metro Downtown Customer Service Center - 323 Congress Ave.), 11:30am – 1pm

• Tuesday, April 22, 2008 (Capital Metro's Downtown Customer Service Center - 323 Congress Ave.), 5 – 6:30pm

• Thursday, April 24 (University of Texas Campus – Belmont Hall Building – BEL, Room 328, 2100 San Jacinto (San Jacinto / 21st Street), 5:30 – 7:30pm

Public Hearing

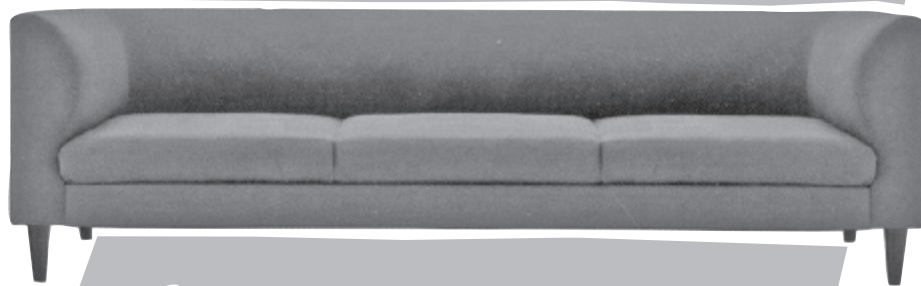
• Monday, April 28, 2008 (Capital Metro Main Administration Building – 2910 East 5th St.), 5:00pm

For a full list of proposed Fall service changes, please visit our Web site at capmetro.org.



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JOHN ANDERSON

The Local Politics of Climate Protection

An interview with Will Wynn

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

Mayor Will Wynn launched the Austin Climate Protection Plan. We visited with him recently about his experiences, satisfactions, and frustrations with the implementation of the plan to date and what he anticipates for year two. What follows is the substance of that conversation, edited for brevity and clarity.

Austin Chronicle: What city of Austin accomplishments from year one of the ACPP do you see as most significant, and why?

Will Wynn: I'm most proud of the overall awareness that has been raised, broadly, about global warming and energy consumption. A year later, the campaign seems to be working – starting with my colleagues, with line employees that I've interacted with sporadically, and then broadly in the community. Austin started at a more progressive place than many places, but I absolutely, positively see and feel that there has been a remarkable rising of the awareness – among individual citizens, organizations, business leaders.

AC: What personal efforts are you most proud of?

WW: When I tell people my home electricity bill is \$28 again this month, that's had more of an impact than anything. It's a nice house, a \$900,000 house, and we don't fool around in the dark – it's perfectly lit and perfectly comfortable! I'm also driving a fifth what I used to, maybe less. So those are the two main changes we can all make – drive less, use less electricity.

Both of those, by the way, put more money in your pocket. I say, keep your money. Don't give it to Austin Energy; don't give it to big gas and oil companies; don't give it to gasoline taxes. That resonates!

AC: In an op-ed published in the February 2007 Statesman, you wrote: "Over the next year, we'll study and develop policies for transportation, land use, waste management, landscapes and natural areas. We'll work with technical advisors, community groups, major employers, small businesses and surrounding communities. Together, we'll find new ways to reduce our region's carbon footprint." But after a year, those policies are not yet incorporated into the plan. While you and council have worked on many of these issues, you've rarely spoken of them as part of the Austin Climate Protection Plan. Why?

WW: As progressive as Austin is, I was careful not to tie everything into climate protection, even though it clearly plays a big role. The most blatant example: Transportation is far and away the biggest challenge for us as a community and a metro economy [in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions]. But as I kicked off the Transit Working Group and the call for urban passenger rail, I have never said, "Global warming is why we should be doing this." Even today, I think I would lose a third of my support for urban passenger rail if I say we're doing it for global warming.

AC: Why do you believe that's true? A survey just released by the ACPP office found that "89% of the residents surveyed, higher than national averages, believe that Austin residents will be affected by global warming/climate change."

WW: The number of skeptics has reduced dramatically. But they still might be about 50 percent of the guys and gals I deal with. People will pull me aside and say, "Mayor, we're all with you here on transit, but do me a favor and don't bring up global warming." They just don't want to have to be seen as on the global warming bandwagon.

But the good news is, we're doing all this stuff. Water conservation, open space, zero waste, land use, and transportation. So meanwhile, I'm satisfied knowing we're making dramatic inroads on the fundamental components of a comprehensive climate protection plan – frankly, without having to play the global warming card.

I take a lot of strength from it, and pride in it, that all this work that I – and a lot of other people – have done will get pulled under this umbrella. It's all going to knit together into a very effective set of policies.

AC: The resolution establishing the Climate Protection Plan as council policy stated: "The city council directs the city manager to develop and implement, and to report to the city council annually upon the implementation and progress of, such policies, procedures, timelines and targets as are necessary to make Austin the leading city in the nation in the effort to reduce and reverse the negative impacts of global warming." Yet more than a year later, council has yet to receive its first annual report.

WW: My sense of the council is that they are aware of how hard Ester [Matthews, ACPP director] and her small staff now are working to get the information to us. So I think, like me, they're willing to be patient. There's going to be a formal presentation to us from staff, sooner rather than later. If the "first year" that we consider is July '07 to July '08, then that's understandable – so be it.

AC: Under our system of government, what powers do you have to ensure that the ACPP is fully implemented? [The City Charter prohibits the council from direct action in administrative matters.]

WW: The one power I have is persuasion, for good or bad. So, for the most part, I've been trying to do that out in the community, with my slide show [for which the mayor was trained by Al Gore at the Climate Project]. And then, with the city manager's blessing and help, talking with city staff. Right now I'm talking to Marc [Ott, new city manager] with one eye on the council – to make sure the council's still there and that I can speak for them with regards to implementation.

AC: To date, the city has engaged in little or no communication, internally or externally, about

The one power I have is persuasion, for good or bad. So, for the most part, I've been trying to do that out in the community.

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its climate protection successes. No comprehensive summary was made publicly available [until requested for this article] of implementation progress in the first year. How can that communication – and thus the power of our city's leadership – be strengthened?

WW: That will become my focus going forward, in working with city management. In hindsight, I can't tell you how firmly I believed that the real challenge was going to be the rank and file [of city employees]. So my focus was on addressing that and then asking the city manager what was going on in this or that department.

But now, beginning about a month ago, my questions are: Where's the website? What's the communication plan? Why does only about half of your Public Information Office seem to be even moderately knowledgeable about the plan?

This year, my personal role in questioning will be on the communications side. Hopefully year two – and not at the expense of real progress down in the trenches – will be about communication, communication, communication.

AC: Did the transition in city managers affect implementation of the ACP?

WW: It was encouraging and efficient for Toby [Futrell, former city manager] to be as energetic as she was. She "bought in" from the get-go. But, perfectly predictably, we lost momentum the last four months or so of her tenure. But we also had a very successful budget year for the Climate Protection Plan; I think we got \$1.25 million into the '07-'08 city budget.

continued on p.38

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And it was a key component of all of our interviews with the city manager semifinalists and finalists, by the way. I believe Marc Ott completely when he tells me how energetic he is to build on our existing reputation and momentum and help us get to the next level. So in that regard, I don't have any concerns about the Climate Protection Plan's implementation going forward.

AC: How do we get other key departments like Neighborhood Planning, Watershed Protection, and Fleet [city vehicles] up to Austin Energy sophistication levels?

WW: Ultimately, Ester and her staff have to be this centralized resource to all of our department directors. Part of the schematic plan was to build this. But I think that facilitating more interdepartmental communication is perfectly aligned with what Marc Ott wants to achieve. The Climate Protection Plan is a perfect opportunity for Marc to step in and, with his management style, work through creating that synergy – delivering on the promise of this great human capital we have.

AC: Why didn't council act to ensure that the climate protection initiative was appropriately staffed and funded right away?

WW: At the outset, I knew there was going to be a cost involved – and I assumed it was going to be seven figures. At the launch in February '07, this was still relative news to my council colleagues. But the department directors were already crafting their internal department budgets, on a real structured timeline, that ultimately work their way up to the city manager and council.

I fast-tracked having the public presentation and the announcement, and the next week hosted having an item from council to catch that budget cycle. For some council members who were less versed in this – frankly, they were still hearing from people saying global warming was just the next Ice Age. So the council resolution had no fiscal note with it. It was a directive to the manager to figure out: How do we fund this thing?

And lo and behold, when the final budget was approved, there was \$1.25 million in it for that plan. The vote on that was the second week in September – and I humped it out in the community from February until September.

All this work that I – and a lot of other people – have done will get pulled under this umbrella. It's all going to knit together into a very effective set of policies.

I gave a huge number of my shows out in the community during that period because, broadly speaking, we weren't yet there as a community. We weren't ready to cut another department or program in order to put \$1.25 million into stopping global warming.

Frankly, I was anticipating some push-back that never materialized. I was pleasantly surprised that we got through that first year. Now I think we've reached that tipping point nationally, locally, and I think even largely in the business community now.

AC: So is that in itself a major accomplishment for the plan's first year – that it survived?

WW: One of the things I'm most pleased with is that we even got there – that there wasn't significant push-back. Either politically, scientifically, or from a budgetary standpoint. Don't forget that during this year we had our state leaders saying: "Global warming isn't happening. And if it is happening, human activity had nothing to do with it."

Newsweek last month featured us in an article, "The CO₂ State." [Feb. 28 *Newsweek* Web Exclusive]. It talks about Texans in general – we use more AC per capita, and so on. It talks about all the Republican governors who are leading their statewide climate protection

efforts. Five of the eight leading state plans are all led by Republicans. But it notes that, "In the absence of any leadership from the state capitol to address carbon emissions, the city of Austin has taken the reins. [Our Climate Protection Plan] is seen by environmentalists as the country's most aggressive municipal initiative aimed at reducing greenhouse gases."

AC: Can Austin help turn Texas around?

WW: We can, and we should. No article should come out in the national press that doesn't mention what Austin is doing. I do want more people nationally and internationally to know what we're doing here – in the belly of the beast.

AC: What is your current expectation for the date by which council will receive staff recommendations for the three things called for in year one? 1) A communitywide GHG inventory, 2) established targets for emission reductions, and 3) a comprehensive plan for meeting those targets.

WW: I don't want to be arbitrary about a date, although I do believe in deadlines. The prediction is for a long, hot, dry summer – so one day when it's 114 degrees, we can decide what to do about it.


I would like the synergy of having it this summer, as we kick off our budget deliberations as well. I'd like the ability to justify what will be next year's investment. I'd like to see: Here's what we accomplished in year one, and here's what will be the strategic plan in year two. So I'd like to see that in June.

I hate to look like I'm rationalizing. But perhaps it's not entirely bad that we're launching it now, as awareness continues to rise.

AC: What can you do as mayor, in the time you've left, to use what Austin is doing to benefit the greater cause of climate protection?

WW: I hope to be very satisfied in 15 months, as I leave office, that there will be a continued march toward a generation-long plan. Independent of who are my successors and the next series of city managers, I'd like to know there's going to be this institutionalized commitment. And I think there's going to be a hell of a lot of municipal pride, about where we are and what we've accomplished. ■

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Pollution in the Colorado watershed is just one environmental issue we face. Our booming growth is paving over some of the richest farmland in the state, our traffic congestion is smudging our clear skies, and irresponsible development threatens our natural heritage.

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A random sampling of our enviro-faves

Being good isn't always easy. It requires maintaining multiple trash receptacles even on the days when you're just in the mood for one. It requires riding your bike even though you're deathly afraid – and can't make turn signals because you'd have to let go of a handlebar. It requires admitting that you have an impact on the world when it wasn't exactly your idea to be in it in the first place.

But there are some people who make being good a little easier for the rest of us. They start car-share programs, hold our legislators accountable, and ensure our ever-easier access to yummy local foods. They inspire us to change our lightbulbs and start compost piles. When we think of these people, we blush, and we doodle their names in soy-based inks.

Yet we brought ourselves to talk to a few of them so that we might share their stories with you. And what we found is that they're really not so different from the rest of us. They've just managed to craft eco-conscious lives in unexpected ways that elegantly fit their own unique personalities and talents – which makes us think that maybe the rest of us schmoes could do the same. So take a look at our not-at-all-comprehensive list of some of Austin's gods and goddesses of greendom.

– Nora Ankrum

Head of the Class



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Brandi Clark's groundbreaking works of staggering green-ness

Brandi Clark's résumé is five pages long. And I'm not talking about a brag sheet with wide margins and a "Hobbies" section. I'm talking about five pages of progressive, city-changing, activist accomplishments, any one of which would make a serious environmentalist proud.

An Austin-raised Yale grad, Clark has been active in the Austin community as a volunteer, fundraiser, chairwoman, event planner, and entrepreneur for more than 11 years, working with environmental groups such as **Ecology Action**, **Keep Austin Beautiful**, **Liveable City**, and the **Austin Parks Foundation**. She has launched an average of one new green venture per year (she has about 12 to date), and she gives environmental-ed lectures at least once a week.

In addition to her 9-to-5 gig as sustainability officer for the proposed, socially and environmentally responsible **One Earth Bank**, Clark serves as chair of the board for **CarShare** (www.austincarshare.org), a company she co-founded that allows people to pick up a car for the day at various locations around Austin. "For

green CRUSH FAVES:

Enviro books: *Cradle to Cradle* by William McDonough and Michael Braungart; *Deep Economy* by Bill McKibben; *Worldchanging* by Alex Steffen, Al Gore, and Stefan Sagmeister; *How to Live Well Without Owning a Car* by Chris Balish; *Blessed Unrest* by Paul Hawken; and *The Green Book* by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen

Enviro docs: *The Next Industrial Revolution*, *The Future of Food*, *Blue Vinyl*

Local green businesses: Eco-Wise, Habitat Suites, Barr Mansion, Farm to Market Grocery, Casa de Luz
Heroes: Paul Hawken and William McDonough

Websites: www.coopamerica.org, www.greenbiz.com, www.worldchanging.com, www.ibuyaustin.com, www.sustainablefoodcenter.org

our one-year anniversary last fall, we were able to add a new Prius to our fleet!" she effuses.

Also on this vegetarian's plate is the **EcoNetwork** initiative (www.austineconetwork.org), a nexus for environmental groups. "I came up with EcoNetwork when I was a member of three organizations that each had the word 'sustainable' in their name, and I realized none of them talked to each other," she says.

"No matter what your career or age, everyone can be green, at home or at work," adds the 2007 *Chronicle's* Readers Poll Best Environmentalist winner. "There are so many opportunities to be involved in the community." She recommends making little changes in daily life, like minimizing driving or using cold water for laundry. "People should feel urgency about this issue, but not panic," she says. "They should feel inspired because they can make a difference."

Equally inspiring is Clark's tireless commitment to promoting sustainability and strengthening our community – and it makes for one helluva curriculum vitae. – Kathryn O'Shields



He's a Rebel! The Rhizome Collective's Scott Kellogg

I approach the **Rhizome Collective** on a sunny Saturday, and co-founder **Scott Kellogg** is in the middle of the street, his long hair flowing over a satellite dish covered in broken bits of mirror. He aims the dish into the sun, holding a piece of cardboard in front of the dish, careful to reflect the concentrated sunlight into the center of the board. In minutes, the cardboard is in flames at our feet. "We sometimes boil eggs with it," Kellogg says.

The Rhizome Collective was founded in 2000 as a center for community organizing and urban sustainability education. The founding members replaced asphalt with wood mulch and soil, and now the space fosters gardens and a greenhouse that supports tilapia and catfish. "Our take on sustainability is that it's not something that we should be waiting for governments or corporations ... to decide that it's time to start doing the green thing," Kellogg says. "We're trying to just empower individuals ... to let people know it's something they can do without having a lot of money and without necessarily having backgrounds in engineering or the sciences." Hence my five-minute lesson on solar cooking.

In a more formal setting, the Rhizome hosts **Radical Urban Sustainability Training**, intensive weekendlong seminars on ecological survival skills. Part of the RUST workshop is held at the collective's brownfield property, a 10-acre field in the Montopolis neighborhood donated to the collective in 2004 as a cleanup project. At the end of April, the brownfield property will be another sort of dumping ground: It's where the Rhizome will install one of the city's first code-approved composting toilets. "We were able to do it there because we're exactly 100 feet away from an existing sewer line. ... We hope to demonstrate that they function just fine."

Kellogg and his composting cohorts also work to educate fellow citizens outside of their properties: Recently founded business **Soil Cyclers** offers local businesses a bicycle-powered food-waste-hauling service, and Kellogg's book, *Toolbox for Sustainable City Living: A Do-It-Ourselfes Guide* (South End Press), co-written by Stacy Pettigrew, comes out in June.

To learn more about the Rhizome Collective, visit www.rhizomecollective.org.

– Sofia Resnick

continued on p.42

Rocking the Bottom Line

Chris Searles lays down the beat for a sustainable local economy

Today **Chris Searles** is a big greenie, but in a former life, he was a drummer – the kind who made a living at it, even. He spent the Nineties playing, recording, and touring with an enviable who's who list of Austin music darlings, including David Garza, Alejandro Escovedo, Abra Moore, and Shawn Colvin. But for some reason, says Searles, he just didn't find what he was looking for. So in 2000, Searles left Austin in search of a new career, which he found in an unremarkable New York bookstore, in an essay by architect **William McDonough**.

McDonough and chemist **Michael Braungart** are the icons behind the cradle-to-cradle movement. Their work has demonstrated that everything from shoes to cars to buildings can be built so that not only are all the ingredients good for the environment, but the manufacturing processes themselves can be, too – all while benefiting a company's bottom line. "It was such an elegantly written argument for

why it makes sense to build a sustainable economy," says Searles. "Everyone inside the economy is a designer; every consumer by their choice is contributing to the future, designing the future."

With this thought in mind, Searles decided to start a business that helps these "designers" along: His online store, **Good Common Sense**, sells home-weatherizing products, compostable dinnerware, and other fun supplies that make life easier for the eco-conscious. Now back in Austin, Searles serves on the board for **TreeFolks** and recently founded UT's first **Sustainable Business Summit**. He is also the brain behind the **Sustainable Shopper's**



green CRUSH FAVES:

Enviro books: *Cradle to Cradle*; *Natural Capitalism* by Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins, and L. Hunter Lovins; *The Ecology of Commerce* by Hawken; *Factor Four* by Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker

Green docs: *Anything by Lester Brown* (Earth Policy Institute) – he's the world's most foremost eco-economist

Ball, the Sunset Valley Farmers Market event that has hit on a winning eco-fest formula (the model followed in this year's Earth Day celebration) with the combination of green shopping, local foods, educational workshops, and solar-powered music. Searles has even been known to reunite his band Twang Twang Shock-a-Boom for the ball, proving once again the truism: The only thing hotter than a rock star is a green rock star.

– Nora Ankrum

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Deliciously ambitious

Progress Coffee's Joshua Bingaman

It's a rainy, humid Friday morning, but **Joshua Bingaman** is all smiles: His **Progress Coffee** is teeming with patrons drinking organic, fair-trade coffee out of compostable cups. Four years ago, Bingaman and his wife, Sarah, left the Mission District in San Francisco for Austin, where they scoured the city for an old, dilapidated warehouse in which to start an environmentally friendly, community-centric cafe. They found it, off of Fifth Street, two blocks east of I-35. "It was an old loading dock and storage warehouse, so we ran all the electrical, water, did everything with recycled materials, instead of building somewhere," Bingaman says. "We call 'developing an area' using something that's already existing. That is why it's called Progress. The word 'progress' means 'a continual betterment' ... and we literally wanted to take something and make it continually better."

And by that, Bingaman means that all the water items in the cafe are low-water usage, the cups are 100% cornstarch, the paper goods are nonbleached and compostable, the fluorescent bulbs are clear-coated so they won't break, their cleaning products are eco-friendly, and the staff hand-separates glass and plastic and hauls it to Ecology Action on bikes.

Two years into the venture, Progress was a happening hub, but Bingaman found out it wasn't easy – or cheap – being green. So he enlisted restaurant consultant Troy Authement, a rural character at heart, to help revamp the business. "It's about a costing mentality, because a lot of small businesses, they just worry about cost, and what they never stop to ask is whether we as consumers are willing to pay a little extra for the better difference." Authement says.

The pair's recent venture is **Progress Green Square**, a platinum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified restaurant and part of the larger Green Square, a 13-acre, master-planned, commercial green site in Round Rock, developed by Designated Tree. Due to open in October, the restaurant will use city sewage and city water, but much of the power will be generated by solar panels and wind power.

"That will be on the forefront for future businesses of Austin, hopefully," Bingaman says. "And there's nothing like that where that's going to be. ... All that's up there is a Wendy's and a Starbucks, and there's a clientele up there that will buy organic, that will come to Progress, that will support that concept."

– Sofia Resnick

To learn more about Progress Coffee, visit www.progresscoffee.com.



green CRUSH FAVES:

- **Enviro book:** *The Recycler's Handbook: Simple Things You Can Do* by EarthWorks Group
- **Enviro doc:** *Who Killed the Electric Car?*
- **Fave local green business(es):** Ecology Action
- **Fave locally grown/produced foods/drinks:** Good Flow juice and honey, Austin Slowburn jam
- **Fave shade of green:** Split Pea Soup Green, Zen Garden Green, La Fonda Grassy Knoll
- **Fave "R" in the RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle):** Reuse
- **Fave green-oriented words:** "progress," "gravel," "wind-mill," "pilgrim"
- **Fave green publications:** *Good* magazine, *ReadyMade* magazine



Slumber Party! Natalie Marquis brings the green to Habitat Suites

Natalie Marquis just flew home after spending two weeks in Rome. But those back-at-work blues are nonexistent. As the general manager of award-winning green hotel **Habitat Suites** (www.habitatsuites.com), located near Highland Mall, Marquis couldn't wait to get back to this labor of love.

Along with managing partners **Eduardo Longoria** and **John McCready**, she has transformed the hotel from its generic, energy-sucking Eighties model to an environmental oasis. When Marquis joined the team in 1990, she found herself up against a wall of disbelief. Eventually, she began proving to her staff, through real-life experiments, that organic gardening outpaces chemical treatments tenfold.

"You don't want to be autocratic about it," she emphasizes of Habitat's schoolteacher philosophy. "You don't want to say, 'This is how we do things.' You want to say, 'This is why we do things.'"

Over the past 18 years, Habitat has expanded from organic gardening and nontoxic cleaning to include 180 photovoltaic solar panels, naturally clean air, and a long-term staff. All staff members receive a percentage of house profits, which explains why this hotel is an exception to the service industry's usual high-turnover rule. "It's [about] being human-friendly," she says with a grin. "And the thing is, if it's good for people, it's good for the planet, and it's good for profit."

Marquis also just clocked her first year as executive director of the **Texas Solar Energy Society** (www.txses.org), which puts on the annual **Cool House Tour** – a chance to view some of Austin's environmentally friendly homes – on June 22.

But Habitat remains her priority. "We're becoming this hub of activity where great things are happening, and people are recognizing that the hotel can support them in these endeavors," she beams. "We've been waiting for the hotel to become that hub. It's finally happening."

"I wanted the hotel to be the first hotel to be off the grid," she laughs. "Not very realistic, but I'm a dreamer. I dream big in Technicolor."

– Darcie Stevens

DREAM A LITTLE DREAM

Randy Jewart reaches for the sustainable culture stars

When I spoke with **Austin Green Art's Randy Jewart** last week, he was at a **Keep Austin Beautiful** party in Waterloo Park, where he'd been helping kids fashion plastic bags into works of art. The activity, he explained, gave kids the chance to learn about the environmental impact of the bags while also "taking the material and cutting it and manipulating it and ironing it – getting that sort of visceral connection to it." Jewart observed the scene as moms took pictures and kids ran around in plastic hats with words like "Toilet Tissue" emblazoned across the front. "To me, this is the community basis for a sustainable culture," said Jewart, "where you're a participant in the cycle of reusing materials, of meeting cool people, of educating yourself while you're doing these things."

Underwhelmed by the prospect that the environmentally conscious are doomed to lives of thankless, lonely lightbulb-changing and trash-sorting, Jewart hopes to see sustainable-minded people forming lively communities in which they can inspire one another, learn together, and maybe get a pat on the

back for a job well done. It's with this in mind that Jewart invited environmental author/journalist/activist **Bill McKibben** to Austin this past March to rabble rouse at South by Southwest Interactive, and it's why he's working with **Austin EcoNetwork** on a project called **Share 350**, which will facilitate community-building among the eco-minded.

While community-building has emerged as a central theme in his projects, it was only four years ago that Jewart, a sculptor, held "community art" in disdain. "The big lightning bolt for me, when I knew that I had to change my career," he explained, "was listening to **William McDonough**."

Jewart heard the sustainable-architecture guru on his car radio and was so impressed, he pulled the car off the road to listen. "I couldn't just be an artist traveling around the country and getting to go overseas and make art that didn't contribute to this movement," said Jewart. "Ever since then, it's been this sort of gradual synthesis of my creative life and my environmental life."

– Nora Ankrum
continued on p.44



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



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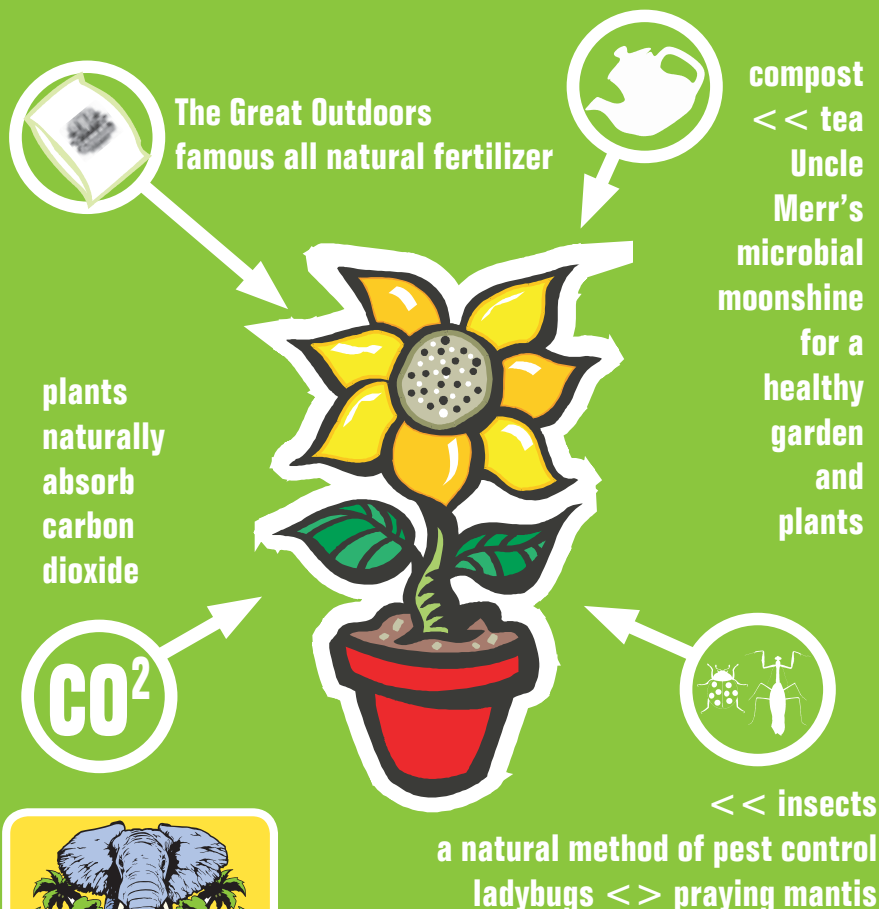
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The Outdoorsy Type

Scott Johnson's got the electric lawn mower hookup

How green is your lawn? **Scott Johnson**, founder of the **Central Texas Electric Lawnmower Program**, thinks it can become greener if you use an electric mower – and he wants to help you buy one.

His fixation goes back to a 1995 *Time* magazine article (which he still has). Johnson read there were no Environmental Protection Agency emission limits for gas-powered gardening equipment like lawn mowers. “We hadn’t done any work on educating people on other options,” he says. Since putting a goat on every lawn was unlikely, Johnson came up with another scheme: Go electric. “It’s much easier to control the emissions from a power plant than a four- or five-horsepower engine,” he explains. Other states, including Arizona, had similar projects, so Johnson adopted their best ideas and in 1996 took his plan to **Austin Energy**. They loved it, and 10 years later, the program has put 1,850 electric mowers into the hands of Austin’s gardeners and has safely recycled about 1,800 gas mowers.

The scheme is to offer a 20% rebate off the cost of an electric mower: Retailers and manufacturers kick in half; the program raises donations for the rest. That incentive kick-starts people’s interest in trading

in their old smoke-spewing oil-burner for a new electric, maybe even cordless model. Johnson has been a bit surprised by some of the swaps. “Some are relatively new, 1 or 2 years old, and the rebate is less than what they could get on the open market,” he says. “But some people do it to do the right thing.”

Johnson knows about learning to be green. “When I was in my early 20s, I wasn’t as pro-environmental as I am now,” he says. That changed after he graduated from Marietta College in Ohio and spent time in Houston and Los Angeles. “You hear about pollution and sprawl on a daily basis,” he says, and that mindset came with him when he moved to Austin. But it’s not just about air quality: Going electric means fewer domestic oil spills and less landfill waste, as people mulch their clippings. “As the city grows,” said Johnson, “and we get closer to violating EPA and federal standards, we’re being proactive.”

– Richard Whittaker

For more details about the program, call Scott Johnson at 389-2250 or visit www.cmpbs.org/electriclawnmower. The Central Texas Electric Lawnmower Program holds its next event at the Kyle Home Depot on Saturday, April 19, 8:30am-1:30pm.



GREEN CRUSH FAVES:

- Eco-read: *The World Is Burning: Murder in the Rain Forest – The Tragedy of Chico Mendes* by Alex Shoumatoff
- Biggest ally in local utilities: Austin Energy General Manager Roger Duncan, who originally championed the program
- Best advice about staying green: “A lot of what I do comes from internally, good for the planet versus bad for the planet.”

SOUL TRAIN

Texas Impact's Bee Moorhead keeps the faith

Bee Moorhead's career began at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, where, she admits, the environment ranked low on her list of policy priorities. Yet when she went to work for faith-based advocacy group **Texas Impact** (www.texasimpact.org) in 2000, the environment was precisely the issue she found in her lap. With one G.W. fresh in the Oval Office and the other – global warming – fresh in constituents' minds, Texas Impact hoped to make some headway on the subject.

Back in school, Moorhead had felt the issue was too overwhelming to deal with. But it became manageable, she says, when she was able to look at it “just through a faith lens” instead of her “LBJ School, state-public-policy lens.” For Moorhead, faith provided hope, and with that in mind, Texas Impact brought under its wing an organization called **Texas Interfaith Power & Light**, which lobbies aggressively for environmental causes, provides helpful resources like Texas-based renewable energy credits on its website (www.txipl.org), and helps local religious groups make their contribution to saving the planet.

Since 2000, compact fluorescent light-bulbs and low-flow showerheads have begun to appear at youth-group fundraisers, says Moorhead. **Meals on Wheels**



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

and More has delivered (and installed) CFLs along with hot meals. Congregation Beth Israel's Rabbi **Steve Folberg** has even taken on global warming as his signature issue, prompting him to host the **Austin Clergy Climate Connection Conference** last February.

Teaching environmental stewardship from a faith angle opens the discussion to arguments you won't find at the Sierra Club, says Moorhead. Under the doctrine of baptism, for instance, “polluting the environment is an abdication of collective responsibility for a child's future.” And the Catholic Church's doctrine of prudence

GREEN CRUSH FAVES:

- Book: *For the Time Being*, by Annie Dillard
- Enviro Doc: *The Inconvenient Truth*, by you-know-who
- Green Business: Meridian Energy Systems
- Hero: “My grandpa Edson Roush, who spent his entire life as a small-family farmer in Appalachia practicing sustainability before anyone knew to call it that.”
- Locally grown food: White Mountain yogurt and Stonewall Peaches, either separately or together
- Shade of green: “The color a banana is about 15 minutes before it's ready to eat (if you like your bananas crunchy like I do).”

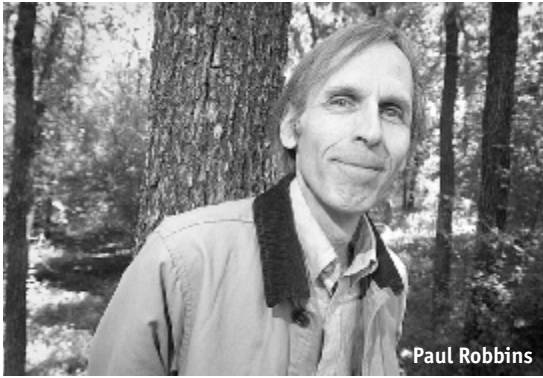
advises not just against behaviors that are proven bad for the environment – but against those that *might* prove so, as well.

What helps Moorhead fight the good fight is understanding that it's not all about fixing this overwhelming problem; instead, she says, faith teaches her to maintain a “right relationship” with creation. “You don't just fix something and wipe your hands and move on,” says Moorhead. “You stay in that relationship. That's the profoundly countercultural message of faith tradition: It's not just about you. It doesn't end when you die.”

– Nora Ankrum

SO MANY CRUSHES, SO LITTLE TIME

More greenies to love



Paul Robbins is one of the granddaddies of the Austin green scene and a persistent environmental spokesman before the City Council dais. He edits, writes, and produces *The Austin Environmental Directory*, a user-friendly guide for all things environmental, including products, issues, and organizations. www.environmentaldirectory.info/austin.

Max Elliott has a green thumb for cultivating young minds with **Urban Roots**, a program in which kids grow food on an organic farm to feed East Austin residents who are in need. www.youthlaunch.org/programs/seeds.php.

Robin Rather, the much-lauded sustainability advocate with a business background, is currently CEO and owner of consulting firm **Collective Strength**, where she uses her mad market-research skills to help businesses get environmentally conscious. www.collectivestrength.com.

Dick Pierce and **Selwyn Polit** really know their compost. They conduct courses and public lectures on **permaculture**, the movement to develop self-sufficient communities with nature-inspired agricultural systems. www.permie.us.

Jeremy Walther, a biologist who has conducted wildlife surveys for the city, co-owns **BioGardener**, which offers reduced-emissions lawn care and organic landscaping for environmentally conscious homeowners and businesses. www.bio-gardener.com.

Armed with a laptop and several gigs of idealism, **Jon Lebkowsky** is an author, blogger, Web consultant, techie, and the ultimate green geek (and we mean that in a good way). See his Screens feature, “The Serious Play in Saving the World,” p.64. www.weblogsky.com, www.worldchanging.com.

Neal Turley's company, **Sustainable Waves**, has delivered pollution-free concerts for Lollapalooza and South by Southwest. How? Solar-powered stages and sound systems that don't use any power from the city and totally rock! www.sustainablewaves.com.

Gillan Taddune shrinks carbon footprints as chief environmental officer for **Green Mountain Energy Co.**, provider of carbon offsets (that is, positive contributions to the environment to compensate for CO₂ damage) and clean energy solutions. www.greenmountainenergy.com.

Kenny Grigar, a superhero who can harness the sun's energy for power, is founder of **Armadillo Solar Outfitters**, a nationwide installer of solar energy systems. www.armadillosolar.net. – Kathryn O'Shields

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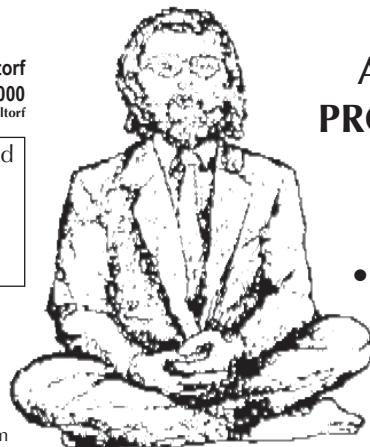


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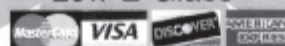
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the arts

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Beth Clayton as Carmen in the New York City Opera production

CAROL ROSEGG/NYC OPERA

Austin Lyric Opera ‘Carmen’ glee-a

Spring has brought a fresh promise to the performing arts in the capital of Texas, and nowhere is this more evident than at Austin Lyric Opera. A new, hip logo and an impressive new website accompany the ALO's move to its new home at the Long Center, a transformation the company hopes to capitalize on dramatically with its new staging of Bizet's torrid, ever-popular *Carmen*.

Looking across at the Long Center's fly tower from ALO headquarters on Barton Springs Road, General Director Kevin Patterson took a moment to remark on the production. He acknowledged that his first encounter with Bizet's masterwork was through the soundtrack to the original version of *The Bad News Bears*, starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal. Many of us first came into contact with the work through classical music's foremost childhood ambassador, Bugs Bunny. More recently, *Carmen* was reworked for a Beyoncé Knowles-led hip-opera. Indeed, the popularity of Bizet's melodies, steeped in exotic Andalusian folk tunes but at once unmistakably French, extends far beyond the opera house. This offers insight into the enduring popularity of the work, as well as a clever synergy with the Long Center's mission.

Entirely accessible in a field that struggles to attract younger and more diverse audiences, *Carmen* is a deft choice to inaugurate the ALO's new residence. Its popularity notwithstanding, Patterson senses that the work is well-suited for Austin audiences: "Opera is the ideal medium for experimentation, as it already comes with strong audience stereotypes." Given its unconventionality, perhaps *Carmen* will find a spiritual home right here in Austin.

When it premiered in 1875 in Paris, though, the opera scandalized French high society. A shamelessly sexual, uncapitulating free spirit had, of course, roamed the stages of opera by this time but never before as a woman. Perhaps what makes the story so alluring is how rare it is that a personality like Carmen's comes our way even to this day. All Patterson and I could produce as a current comparison was Madonna, and even so, merely the pop icon circa the 1980s.

The company is thrilled to have mezzo-soprano bombshell Beth Clayton inhabit the title role. At 6 feet tall, striking both in presence and vocal prowess, Clayton is a dynamic choice for opera's most famous libertine, as New York City Opera found when it had her fill the role in its production last fall. Alongside a

cast that includes William Joyner, upcoming stars Barbara Divis and Luis Ledesma, and a good balance of Austin-based talent, Clayton brings great promise to ALO's

first staging of *Carmen* since 2001, which took place a stone's throw from the Long Center in the now-demolished City Coliseum.

The venue and the production fit hand in glove. Celebrated for reusing a vast amount of original building materials to create something new and sublime, the Long Center is poised to host a fresh adaptation of one of the most frequently recycled and universally beloved operas.

In Bizet's inimitable "Habanera," Carmen sings that "love is a rebellious bird." Austin Lyric Opera puts this out as a challenge to Austin: If you haven't been to see an opera before, now is the time to break out of that cage. You might just fall in love.

— Michael Kellerman

In Memoriam Francis Hodge

The man who wrote the book on directing plays has passed on. Francis Hodge, who died Sunday, April 6, at age 92, was the author of *Play Directing: Analysis, Communication, and Style*, a tome that laid out in such a clear, direct way all the practical information needed to stage a theatrical production that it became the standard text in the field after its publication in 1971. The book is now in its sixth edition. In writing it initially, Hodge drew on more than 20 years of his experience teaching in the Department of Drama at the University of Texas at Austin, his experiences directing more than 50 productions, and his supervision of some 150 productions directed by students. He came to Austin after studying at Hobart College in Geneva, N.Y. (his hometown), and Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., where he obtained his doctorate in theatre, and launching his career as a teacher at Carroll College in Waukesha, Wis., and the University of Iowa. He arrived at UT in 1949, when the Department of Drama, as it was called then, was still only 11 years old. He went on to spend three full decades on the faculty, during which he supervised more than 100 master's thesis productions; established the Demonstration Laboratory, a weekly meeting for department students to present new works to one another; founded the American Society for Theatre Research, a professional organization for scholars in theatre and performance; contributed to the *Educational Theatre Journal* and the *Quarterly Journal of Speech*; served as editor for the



American Theatre Journal; wrote *Yankee Theatre: The Image of America on the Stage, 1825-1850* (1964), which received the Golden Anniversary Book Award from the National Communication Association, and *Play Directing*; was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Theatre; and served on numerous UT faculty committees, including — a favorite! — five years on the Athletics Council while Darryl Royal was coaching the Longhorn football team. Upon his retire-

ment in 1979, Hodge was made professor emeritus, and in 2006, he was honored with the UT College of Fine Arts' E. William Doty Award, given annually to an individual who has made distinguished contributions to his profession and to the education of UT students. In Hodge's case, the students were the beneficiaries of his keen intelligence, his passion, and, most of all, his rigorous approach to his craft; his lessons served them well not only in the theatre but also in life. Hodge is survived by his wife of 65 years, Beulah Wiley Hodge; daughter Betsy Hodge Flack and her husband, Jim, of San Francisco; grandsons Andrew Flack of San Francisco and Bardin Flack of Kona, Hawaii; sisters Muriel Hodge and Helen Hodge Hofer of Pittsford, N.Y.; many neighbors on Bluebonnet Lane in South Austin, where Beulah and Fran lived for more than 50 years; and legions of appreciative students. Contributions may be made to the Dr. Francis Hodge Endowed Scholarship Fund, University of Texas at Austin, College of Fine Arts, 1 University Station D-1400, Austin, TX 78712-0340. — Robert Faires

ProArts/ACC A legendary deal where roads cross

Everyone comes to the crossroads sooner or later. When Robert Johnson did, it led to a deal with the devil and the greatest blues music ever played, or so the legend says. In the case of ProArts Collective and the Austin Community College Drama Department, it led to a deal with each other that has already produced one award-winning stage production, and now it stands poised to repeat that success — with a play about the mythic Mississippi bluesman, no less.

Robert Johnson: *Trick the Devil* is Bill Harris' drama in which the man

who sang "Hellhound on My Trail" is allowed to give his own account of that fateful midnight meeting, which he tells after being waylaid in a Deep South juke joint by a Shakespeare-spouting English professor. ProArts and ACC have teamed up for a co-production starring Austin Community College students Michelle Flanagan and Feliz McDonald, Austin veteran Billy Harden (*Porgy and Bess*, *Crowns*), and B. Iden Payne Award winner Aaron Alexander (*As You Like It*) as Johnson. The director is ACC Drama professor Marcus McQuirter, who also helmed the first ACC-ProArts co-production last year, *Funnyhouse of a Negro*, for which he won an Austin Critics Table Award.

"The collaboration is a great opportunity for ProArts and ACC to explore each other's worlds," notes the director, and that extends beyond the annual play. When ProArts hosts BAM!, its Black Artists Movement festival, it brings visiting artists to ACC for workshops and residency activities. In turn, ProArts gains a new audience from the college community. Both sides see their partnership helping them

reach more Austinites than ever and magnifying their impact on the city's cultural life. That stands to be even truer with Robert

Johnson: *Trick the Devil*,

since it's being staged in the new Long Center. (All proceeds from the production — \$10 per person, \$8 for students — benefit the Boyd Vance Scholarship Fund, which awards \$1,000 over two semesters to an African-American drama or dance major at ACC.)

ProArts and ACC will also be honoring Austin's blues elders with a special concert and celebration. Blues Boy Hubbard, Donald "Duck" Jennings, and other musicians will jam and swap songs in a traditional song circle, with a special showcase by Matthew Robinson & the Central East Band. Beer, Barbecue, and the Blues takes place Saturday, April 19, 1-5pm, at Kenny Dorham's Backyard, 1106 E. 11th. Admission is \$5.

— R.F.

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Robby Lee (l) and Randy Jewart

SCOTT MEIER

From what seems like a great idea – the artists will own the garden and do sculpture and programming – there are all these issues like taxes: Who is going to pay the taxes on space dedicated to a nonprofit? And where does funding for maintenance come from after the developer sells off his pieces of the development? If you build a golf course, these things are straightforward because you’ve got revenue, but [what] if you build something that isn’t revenue-driven?

With the help of attorneys from UT legal aid, we are working on creating a for-profit subsidiary. Because arguably, there isn’t a community-driven enterprise that is not necessarily a charitable enterprise – but to be able to be active in each direction, we need both AGA Inc. and AGA nonprofit. What we’re trying to argue with the attorneys is that whether we’re getting paid to make this work or whether it is charitable, the goal is to be making art in this unique kind of way that drives a message through each object and whoever gets to see it.

Matt Presley: With Agave, I think there is a good match here in goals and hopes. In theory, there are possibilities where people could be paying their homeowner association dues and contributing to a nonprofit all at once.

AC: Matt, tell me about your role at Agave and with Austin Urban Digs.

Presley: My time is spent on the consulting/feasibility side, on how you link design into business. I advise on design and consumer impact. Design and economy aren’t totally separate things, so how do we create a situation where developers can understand the impact of design

decisions? Most of this gets left out, because many of these things – art, design choices – don’t have an established dollar value attached to them. My job is to help by looking at what Ryan [Battle] is calling intangibles, to see how you can impact and improve the development and quality of life but also how it impacts the economy and the city. We help create a draw for culturally driven residents. Getting their capital is such a small part of this; getting their creative input and investment in our developments is what we really want to build.

Ryan Battle: There are great similarities between how intangibles like creativity, sustainability, and community relate to both the entrepreneurial process and the artistic process. And as our society changes, the value of these intangibles also changes. For an eco-entrepreneur, these societal shifts present opportunities to look at how we do things and mold intangibles together to derive new forms of value, where value is not necessarily expressed in a dollar figure. What draws my

involvement in AGA is that it mashes together a number of intangible ideas – artistic expression, reuse, powers of family and community, goodwill to earth – and creates value for its participants and earth. In my current project, I’m looking at a similar set of intangibles and applying them to the work/life balance of Austin’s amazing independent workforce. Looking to create greater value out of their time and dollar by incorporating large doses of local artistic expression and smarter utilization of physical space in our urban core. The mashing of these ideas 10, even five years ago would have garnered you a blank stare. Today, that blank stare is an interested head nod. From stare to nod, that’s progress, particularly when it creates opportunity for the arts and benefit to the earth.

AC: So Randy, as your project spans grow to include both local gardens and community park space, schoolroom projects, and collaborations with national organizations like Forest Ethics, do

you think the organization is changing fundamentally to account for this growth? In other words, how do you maintain AGA’s focus in the midst of this expansion?

Jewart: When we started Austin Green Art, we were thinking Austin is a community that cares about environmental things, and as artists, we can help the public understand art in general by giving it this green entry point. Steel-scrap art sculpture, for example, doesn’t have anything to do with environmental issues, but fundamentally it is a reuse project, and in telling that story, we can help people appreciate it as reuse, as something approachable.

Now the goal is to show up without art but

with a service, to say, “What are you trying to do at Agave or at the Hill Country Conservancy, and how can we become inspired to make art by what it is that you are doing?” Every artist chooses their muse, and we choose the muse of collaboration; then we decide what we’re going to make from that setting. On a nonprofit level, our big event is Clean Sweep, where we go and clean up the rivers and creeks; then we have this big party, one day with thousands of people, where we make art to help tell the story of why this cleanup is important. Instead of us standing at a microphone talking about how great it is to clean up a creek, everybody is working together to make a giant fish out of what we cleaned out. It becomes community development. That is what Austin Green Art’s mission was and still is: to create this thing that gets everybody moving and talking and drawing conclusions about these issues they are participating in. The whole community comes out a notch higher than it would have been without it

continued on p.51

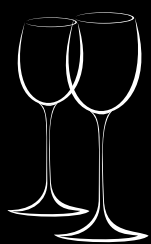
Rapidly expanding Austin Green Art works to sustain its mission and identity

BY NIKKI MOORE

Last spring, I met Austin Green Art founder Randy Jewart for a one-on-one conversation about a man, his work, his mission in Austin, and the people ready to help and build with him. (See “Green on the Go,” May 25, 2007.) Eleven months later, as Austin Green Art is applying two major foundation grants toward organizational planning to account for growth and growth potential, I was met by Jewart plus Matt Presley and Elizabeth Moliter, chief executive officer and sales manager, respectively, of Agave’s development corporation, Austin Urban Digs; three-year Austin Green Art project manager Robby Lee; and new member and Austin entrepreneur Ryan Battle. Over dinner at Curra’s, we discussed Austin Green Art’s growth, growing pains, and the foundations for its own sustainability.

Austin Chronicle: First, congratulations on the new grants from Austin Community Foundation and the Shield-Ayres Foundation. Austin Green Art is also working on several exciting projects with the Domain and Agave developments. I imagine this is a time of real growth and learning for the organization.

Randy Jewart: What I’ve learned coming into the mix of these projects is that regardless of what your intentions are as a participant in the development process, whether you are an architect, developer, interior designer ... there are mechanics in place that make it very difficult to do anything outside of those mechanics. There are real legal issues. For example, right now we are trying to work out the legal issues to allow Austin Green Art, a nonprofit, to own spaces within the Agave development.



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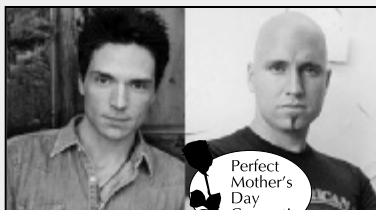
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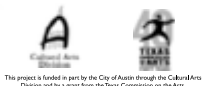
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Book of the Stars, Stars of the Books

The 2008 Nebula Awards ceremony comes to Austin

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

The 42nd annual Nebula Awards ceremony will shine bright as magnesium in the Omni Hotel Downtown during this final weekend of April. Or, if not quite of magnesium intensity, at least with something akin to starlight.

It's the science-fiction and fantasy industry's version of the Oscars, this ceremony, where the writers of the best novel, novella, novelette, short story, and script in the past year (as judged by genre professionals) will be celebrated amid parties and panels and booksignings and so on – propeller beanies strictly optional. Usually this event reveals itself in some venue far beyond the borders of the Lone Star State; for 2008, though, the powers that be among the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America have chosen our hippie-riddled and tech-enhanced sprawl as the one in which to champion their favorite fiction and spend a bit of their quill-gotten booty. Of course, writers don't actually use quills to earn their booty, these days; we're all cybered up with microthin laptops and ergonomic keyboards and PDAs and other such apparatuses, as we're pretty much already living in some version of the future(s) that these SFWA people have been writing about for decades.

Back in 1965, when the smallest computers were approximately the size of an Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, the first Nebula Award for best novel went to Frank Herbert's *Dune*. (You may recall – or perhaps you've tried to forget – the David Lynch film version of that classic, with Kyle MacLachlan as a blue-eyed dope fiend and Sting dressed in a sort of art deco monokini.) Now, 43 years later, the nominations for best science-fiction novel are *Ragamuffin* by Tobias Buckell, *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* by Michael Chabon, *The Accidental Time Machine* by Joe Haldeman, *The New Moon's Arms* by Nalo Hopkinson, and *Odyssey* by Jack McDevitt.

So maybe you want to attend the Nebula Awards this year because you can't wait to find out who won in that category or who won in the others. Or maybe you want to attend because ... uh, well, why would someone – someone who's neither up for an award nor a member of SFWA, some struggling unum out of the amateur pluribus – want to attend this skiffy shindig?

Luckily, it doesn't take the investigative circuits of an R. Danel Olivaw to discern the answer. Why, one need look no further than the IT department of this local alt-weekly. It turns out that the *Chronicle's* own Fred Stanton is an aspiring science-fiction writer himself (non-SFWA, only a single recent sale to his name) and will be going to, for the first time, these storied awards. And why?

"I was told there would be drinks," says the affable computer specialist, wiping a few smears of HTML from his pale hands.

Austin Chronicle: No, Fred, I mean for real.

Fred Stanton: Because it's a good chance to network with people – there'll be other authors there and agents and editors. I suppose I've been thinking, somewhere in the back of my mind, that I might take an agent or editor hostage long enough for Stockholm syndrome to set in.

AC: [Laughs.] But what about the awards themselves? Have you read any of the nominees?

FS: Well, Jennifer Pelland had a short story, "Clone Barbecue," in an issue – the second issue – of *Space Squid*. And she has a short story that's been nominated for a Nebula this year.

AC: But the nominated story's not "Clone Barbecue"?

FS: No, it's called "Captive Girl."

AC: And what did you think of –

FS: I haven't had a chance to read it yet, actually.

AC: But so what brings "Clone Barbecue" and, uh, *Space Squid* to mind?

FS: I'm in a writers' group with the three editors of *Space Squid*.

AC: Ah. It sounds pretty incestuous already, this Nebula stuff.

FS: Oh, there's a fair amount of who-knows-who. Which is more or less unavoidable, I think, because skill and talent won't get you anywhere unless someone knows that you have it.

AC: Are there other people in town you know who're going to the awards?

FS: I know a new author, Patrice Sarath, whose first novel [Gordath Wood] is coming out in June. She got invited to be part of the mass booksigning session hosted by BookPeople – which is also part of the Nebula event at the Omni. She'll be signing copies of a short-story anthology that includes work by her and a few others from one of the writing groups I'm in. The anthology's called *Tales From the Secret City*.

AC: And the writing group?

FS: Cryptopolis. It's the more advanced of the two writing groups I'm in. The other group is the science-fiction, fantasy, and horror study group of the Texas Writers' League. It's known as the SlugTribe.

AC: The SlugTribe.

FS: Yes.

AC: And the other one, Cryptopolis, is more ... advanced, you say?

FS: Well, it essentially is. The SlugTribe is more basic – not in a demeaning way, but simply because it consists mostly of starting authors who are largely unpublished but who are honing their craft and being mentored by people who have publication credits. Cryptopolis is a more advanced group because it's a group where already-published people are working hard on getting more work published. They've already found their voices, to a large extent. They've found their styles, and they've placed a couple of stories. And now they're trying to make certain that they can go on to build actual careers.



And they'll likely be found at the Omni this weekend, these toilers in (we'll suggest temporary) obscurity – rubbing elbows and trading quips and trivia with the likes of Ardat Mayhar (author emeritus), Joe R. Lansdale (toast-master), Michael Moorcock (grand master), and a roster of hopeful nominees and their friends. You're welcome to join them, if you can afford the registration fee (\$50, but more if you opt for the banquet) and have an interest in fiction of a distinctly speculative sort. Perhaps the next couple of days will be a bit overcast, even, and the big Texas sky will appropriately be the color of television, tuned to a dead channel. ■

The 2008 Nebula Awards (and related events) take place Friday-Sunday, April 25-27, at the Omni Hotel Downtown (700 San Jacinto). For more information or to purchase tickets, see www.sfwawards.org/2008/index.html.

To find out more about the SlugTribe science-fiction, fantasy, and horror-fiction writing group, visit www.slugtribe.org. To learn more about other Austin-based writing groups, visit www.writersleague.org/links/wg.html. *Space Squid* can be found online at www.spacesquid.com and at BookPeople, Dragon's Lair, and MonkeyWrench Books.



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Randy Jewart

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– Randy Jewart, Austin Green Art founder

ect] getting paid, because they can't drop the ball, and if they are getting paid, then there is accountability, and hopefully some of those unpaid artists are aspiring to be the lead in the next go-round and will help someone out to meet the team, the funders, to be part of the milieu and have something thrown their way.

Robby Lee: That's me. I came to the "play with hay" and have been there for three years now. Last year, I was able to create the awards for the Keep Austin Beautiful '07 awards ceremony. It was awesome to meet the leaders in the environmental community in Austin and around the world and to have my work, these awards from recycled materials, seen by them. We knew at that point that the sky was the limit. It was a great opportunity for me as an artist to be creative and have an impact as well. I've gained such a huge wealth of knowledge; to be a part of this new movement is really amazing for me. But it was something I never set out to be part of. As a broke artist, I always made things from found objects, and now I'm an environmental artist.

AC: So is it fair to say that your participation in Austin Green Art has helped define your work in some way? You mentioned earlier that you have a background in photography and also experience in landscape architecture; as a jack-of-all-trades, you seem a prime example of who Austin Green Art is looking for as an artist.

Lee: Yes, and that for me is so healthy. To use all the skills I've learned over the years is a great fit, to use all of those skills now as a project manager, artist, schlepper, rock-mover, and go-getter. And while I've worked differently and it did take time to adjust, it feels so natural now to work in this way. We go to a project to see what they are up to and how we can participate. We often find material flows; we learn what's needed; then we sit with that information to see what's there for us as artists. It is a different process altogether: There is a slow progression of a thing that happens over time in a gradual process, which helps out in material supply, the design procedure, and the real enjoyment of the project. The result is always unique; you have the feeling when you finish like, "I was there," or, "I did that thing." It is great to have this opportunity to educate and build community in this way. ■

For more on Randy Jewart, see "Dream a Little Dream," p.42.

in terms of relationships, in terms of discourse about things that are very complicated.

AC: Austin Green Art not only challenges the traditional mechanisms for development and organization, but it also calls for a very different kind of artist, one whose ego or self-conception as the genius artist takes a back seat to the larger goals of sustainability and equal collaboration. Is this difficult to maintain as Austin Green Art expands from a one- to three-man show to a larger collaborative?

Jewart: That is what we are in the thick of, for sure. Ideally, from an artistic and an organizational standpoint, we are looking for the right artist who can do the right job ... not even necessarily that we are that right artist. There is a fundamental belief in us that everybody is an artist, and we're ready to have everybody's ideas and input, and tied to that is a tension against a culture of specialization, where I am an artist, and you're an engineer, or you're a designer. So we are working on each project to build positive adrenaline as we all change and participate and learn about our capabilities.

Organizationally, we are just looking for people who share the core values and are willing to take the ball and run with it in lots of different directions, rather than saying, "We're going this way." It's a challenge, but this connects with the forefront of the environmental activism right now. Paul Hawken's new book, *Blessed Unrest*, is working to outline the largest social movement in world history, which is happening right now. There are over a million nongovernmental agencies all over the world dedicated to helping the earth and helping people. Choose your issue, change your country, and they are out there, largely unnamed, sharing the desire to be effective in the face of a lot of resistance.

AC: In Austin Green Art's nonprofit and for-profit mix, how do we make a value proposition to the artists involved?

Battle: This has been part of the organization from the beginning. Generally, it falls down to the artist who is leading [a particular proj-



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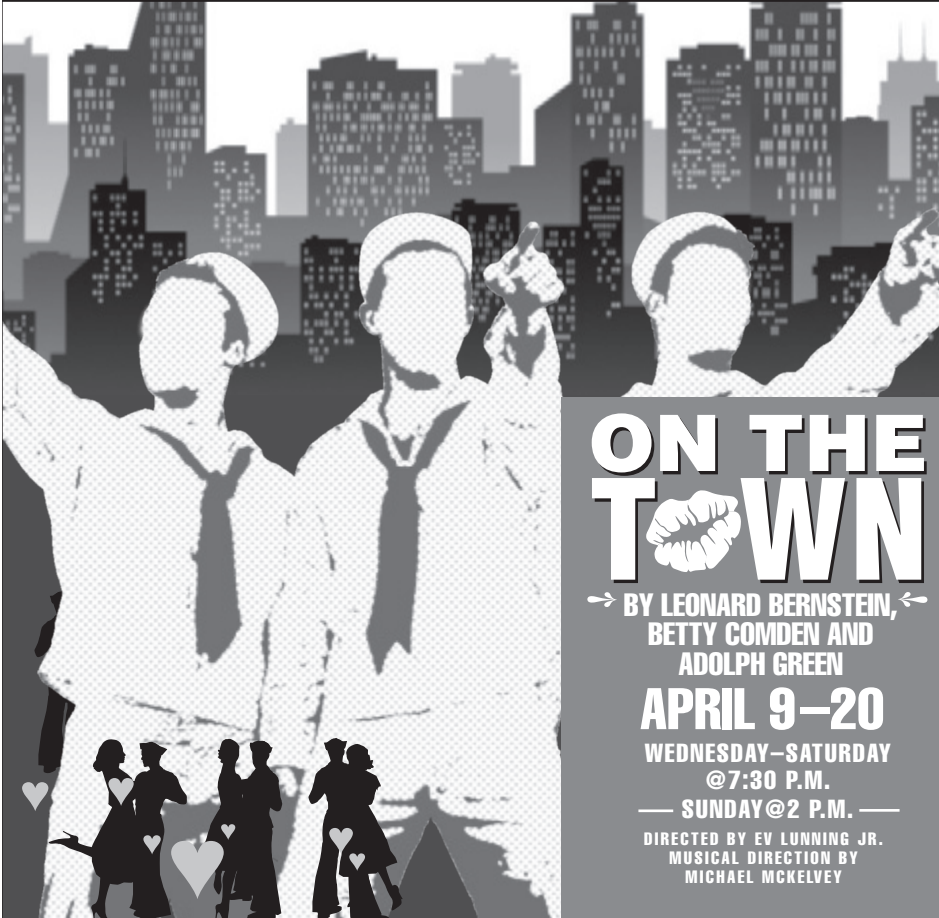
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Horses frolic in the early-morning light at the Inn at Dos Brisas.

PHOTOS BY SEABROOK/JULYCHIS.COM

ROOM AT THE INN There's lots of room at the **Inn at Dos Brisas** (www.dosbrisas.com), near Chappell Hill and Brenham – 300 acres of manicured lawns, gardens, trails, and ponds, to be exact. Our experience there was sublime. Owners **Doug** and **Jennifer Bosch** provide faaabulous food, luxurious accommodations, and a sense of peace that doesn't exist in the city. As you're driving through the Dos Brisas gates, past the wildflowers that look like pools of liquid fire and ultraviolet light, past the fully stocked fishing pond, past the horses frolicking in dappled sunlight, and past the organic gardens, where much of the inn's food is grown, the cares of the city melt away. This place is heaven on earth, with virtually every creature comfort available. Not for the faint of pocketbook! We had an early dinner that was exquisitely prepared by Executive Chef **Jason Robinson**, a veteran of Chicago's legendary **Tru** restaurant. While I can't

even pretend to be a foodie, all the foodies I know say the Inn at Dos Brisas provides a superlative dining experience. All I know is that the food was mouthwateringly divine – from the fresh vegetables to the whole-roasted foie gras to the poached Maine lobster to the grilled Texas Wagyu beef tenderloin to the scrumptious organic carrot cake accompanied by roasted-carrot ice cream and a carrot reduction – all with excellent wine pairings. What I do know about is luxury accommodations, and the inn offers a superlative experience there, too. Four private casitas (with eight more on the way, each with its own private pool) are equipped with a bootjack in every room, remote-controlled fireplaces, kitchens loaded with complimentary snacks and drinks, and their own golf carts. Everything is so complete that my biggest decision was whether to go fishing, swimming, or horseback riding; stroll the property; lounge with cocktails; or just wallow in the ultra-comfortable bed and watch television. After a long weekend, I chose the bed route, availing myself of the snacks and drinks, followed by late-night Champagne-sipping on the casita's private terrace. The innkeeper practically had to throw me out the next day; otherwise I would have remained happily ensconced in my quarters for weeks on end, signaling only when I needed the kitchen restocked. Even as I returned to my humble Austin abode, I remained on cloud nine for the rest of the week.

SELF-SERVE I was on **Ray Seggern's Chillville** on **101X** last Sunday morning, discussing my, um, "condition" and some of the fundraisers being held for me (www.chillville.com). It's awkward to discuss fundraisers when they are being held for me, which is why in my last column I did not plug last Tuesday's **Valley of the Dolls** benefit for me at the Downtown **Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz**. But having been scolded by friends who read about it elsewhere, I should mention that there are two more scheduled benefits: Sunday, May 4, 2pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, there will be a coffee and pie social, hosted by author and **Chronicle** Food Editor **Virginia Wood**, with a screening of **Joan Crawford's Mildred Pierce**. Also, Wednesday, May 14, is booked for a musical celebration and auction, hosted by **Susan Antone** at **Antone's**. More on both of those later.



Gail Rubin, Joel Mozersky, and Ted Allen at last weekend's Art After Dark event

DON'T FORGET Tonight, Thursday, April 17, is **aGLIFF's Bloom** event. Tickets at www.agliff.org. Also, tonight is the preview party for the **Circa Antiques Show** benefiting the **Heritage Society**, and the show runs through Sunday. All ticket info at www.heritagesocietyaustin.org. Saturday, April 19, is **Zach's Red, Hot & Soul** fundraiser; tickets at www.zachscott.com. And then there's **Octopus Club's ArtErotica** fundraiser; tickets at www.octopusclub.org.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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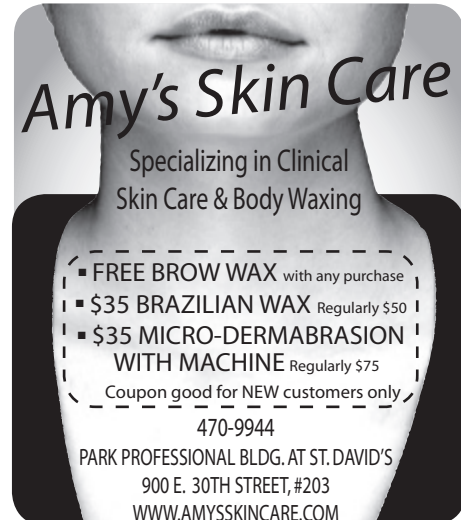


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food

57 GYPSY ITALIAN BISTRO/CHINATOWN RESTAURANT
58 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

OPAL'S GOES GREEN

Not content with just owning one of the best collections of Scotch whisky in the U.S., Opal Divine's Michael Parker is going green. In a big way.

"I'm just an old hippie at heart," he says. "I was very into ecology when I was younger. When we got into business, trying to be green was cost-prohibitive. Now ecologically friendly ways to run your business are more available, and we're trying to make our restaurants some of the greenest around."

Parker is using a three-pronged approach: recycling, using biodegradable packaging for to-go orders, and using green energy. He's working with the **Institution Recycling Network** to recycle the most common restaurant debris, like glass, tin, cardboard, and aluminum containers. But he's most excited about figuring out what to do with all the leftover and unused vegetable trimmings. So now he's working on **composting**. "We think that of our 12 yards of waste per week, 60 to 70 percent is compostable," he says. To give you an idea of how big that is, imagine 1.5 million uncrushed cans of beer, and that's every week.



Opal's has moved to all biodegradable packaging. "We're using **biomass packaging** that is made from agricultural sources like sugar cane, corn, and potato starch," he says. "Unfortunately, we're paying double and triple what Styrofoam costs, but it means that anything our customers take home can be recycled or even composted."

His restaurants are also on a **green-energy** diet. This has actually paid off; sometimes doing right means making money. "We signed on with Austin Energy's **GreenChoice** a few years ago," he says. "It's mostly wind power. When you sign on with GreenChoice, you get locked into a specific rate, and instead of buying at the rates that are captive to oil prices, our utility bills are fixed, and the rates are locked in for 10 years." The deal is even better now that Austin Energy is locking rates for 15 years.

Add it all up, and the whole program still costs them money. But Parker doesn't care. "It is definitely an expense we pay extra for, but we think it's the right thing to do," he says. "It's part of the cure." — Wes Marshall



GARDENS BUILD COMMUNITY

Austin's first community garden was established in 1975, just around the time that forward-thinking people were becoming aware of the benefits of organic, locally grown food. Thirty years later, the greater nutritional value and fresher flavor of local, organic produce is well known, and Austin boasts 10 active community gardens, all of which have waiting lists.

Austin's community gardens are overseen by the **Sustainable Food Center**, an umbrella organization dedicated to promoting access to healthful, sustainable food. Through work with community and school gardens, workshops, and technical assistance, the Sustainable Food Center provides support and know-how to help get community gardens started.

Community gardens transform vacant, blighted urban lots into places of beauty and abundance. Most gardeners grow more than they can use, and the Sustainable Food Center encourages (and facilitates) sharing the overflow with food pantries, schools, and low-income neighbors. Invariably, as the community builds the garden, the garden builds the community.

"Everyone comes together in a spirit of cooperation, rather than competition," says **Karen Banks**, program director of Community and Youth Gardens at the Sustainable Food

Center. "All of Austin's community gardens host events and provide a public place for residents to sit and relax. Once a month, there are community workdays for larger projects, such as maintenance of pathways, pruning orchards, and toolshed building.

"Not only are people getting their basic food needs met; the process invariably chips away at the powerlessness and isolation residents feel. A community garden usually ends up being 10 percent gardening and 90 percent community organizing," Banks affirms. "When neighbors get together to accomplish something, they realize that when they get together, they can accomplish things!"

Austin's relentless growth has put some established community gardens in jeopardy, as vacant lots are being sold and developed. Fortunately, the gardens have proven to be such catalysts for positive change that the Parks & Recreation Department is considering allowing community gardens on city-owned property. "Maintaining pressure on the City Council to plan for community gardens, and to change some of the ordinances regarding them, is our next challenge," Banks explains. "Communities thrive where community gardens bring residents together." — Kate Thornberry

EVENT MENU APRIL 18-20

► Local newswoman **Michelle Valles** hosts **Taste of Mexico 2008**, the annual fundraising gala to benefit **Mexic-Arte Museum** (419 Congress, 480-9373, www.mexic-artemuseum.org), at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (208 Barton Springs Rd.). Food and cocktails, Latin music and dance, and a silent auction. \$60 per person; tickets by phone or online. Friday, April 18, 7:30-10:30pm.

► **Downtown Farmers' Market** (Fourth & Guadalupe) invites you to their **Earth Day Living Green Festival** – children's art projects, cooking demonstrations with samples, earth-friendly exhibits, solar-powered music. More info at www.austinearthday.com. Saturday, April 19, 9am-6pm.

► Enjoy an evening of live music, great food, and margaritas at **Changos Taqueria** (3005 S. Lamar); their **Tacos a-Go-Go** party benefits the **Texas Music Project**. Saturday, April 19, 4-10pm.

► **Hosteria Verde Supper Club** presents an eight-course spring dinner at **Wally Workman Gallery** (1202 W. Sixth): \$75 a person, BYOB; reserve at www.hosteriaverde.com. Saturday, April 19, 7:30pm.

► **Texas Hills Vineyard** (830/868-2321, www.texashillsvineyard.com) celebrates their Kick-Butt Cab and Syrah at a release party that offers music by **Drew Kennedy**, appetizers with a glass of each wine, and a souvenir wine glass. \$25; reservations suggested. Saturday, April 19.

► **Mexic-Arte Museum** bestows their Cocina de Oro (Golden Kitchen) Award to former Austin chef **Roberto Santibanez**. He will prepare a VIP brunch at the **Shoreline Grill** (98 San Jacinto). \$100 per person; reservations necessary. Sunday, April 20, 11am. — V.B.W.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The 23rd annual **Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival** served up four action-packed days of events last week, and the *Chronicle* Food staff was all over them. American Airlines flight cancellations threatened to wreak havoc on the schedule of presenters, but some last-minute scrambling by the festival office was able to assure the arrival of everyone except New York wine expert **Josh Wesson**. Luckily, *Chronicle* contributors **Wes Marshall** and **Claudia Alarcón** were able to step in and cover his presentations on Texas wines and the pairings of food and wine. The Food & Film event at the **Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz** was a delicious success, featuring a good color print of *The Caine Mutiny* and a delectable five-course meal paired with wines from **MacMurray Ranch**, followed by a lively Q&A with **Kate MacMurray**. It was the second time in the past two weeks I've had the opportunity to sample the cooking of local chef **Lawrence Kocurek**, and I'm more convinced than ever that he's one to watch. Both local and visiting chefs presented standing-room-only classes to appreciative crowds at the **Central Market Cooking School** and the Sunday Fair – we're told the Saturday brunch class with Charleston, S.C., chef **Bob Waggoner** and the Chef Smackdown dinner between **Paul Petersen** and **Josh Watkins** were particular treats. The Friday night Stars Across Texas grand tasting offered up several trends: slices of beef that were too big to eat in one bite and impossible to cut with plastic cutlery while standing up; polenta, risotto, or stone-ground grits spiked with cheese and fresh vegetables replacing potatoes as the starch on many plates; various seafood *panna cottas*; mandolin-shaved, crisp-fried carrot or parsnip strips as garnishes; more liquor than ever being served, making it a much drunker party in the long run; and a disturbing number of young mothers with babies or toddlers in strollers at a huge cocktail party. (I've got a rant brewing about where small children do and don't belong. Watch this space.) My favorite bites of the evening: a voluptuous shrimp-and-tomato bisque from the **Driskill Grill**, the divinely crisp pork belly on **Finn & Porter's** upscale BLT, cheesy grits with spring peas topped with a skewer of *cabrito* from the **Turtle** in Brownwood, salted-caramel gelato from **Teo's**, **Hudson's on the Bend's** Poteet strawberries wrapped in venison prosciutto with Texas goat cheese and habanero-spiked Round Rock honey, and **NoRTH's** meltingly tender osso buco. Local food gossip was a very hot topic: Former *Dallas Morning News* food editor and restaurant critic **Dotty Grif-fith** is relocating to Austin for a nonfood writing job, new food writer **Addie Broyles** was covering events and blogging about them for the *Austin American-Statesman*, and longtime *Statesman* restaurant critic **Dale Rice** confirmed that he will leave the daily this summer to teach journalism at Texas A&M. (Management at the daily declined to comment on any changes.) The **Wine & Food Foundation** informed us that sponsorship, ticket sales, and wine bids at the Rare & Fine Wine Auction Saturday evening garnered them a total of \$370,000 to support their educational and grant programs. Festival insiders tell us the popular Sunday Fair made its final appearance at Georgetown's San Gabriel Park this year, but there's no word yet on where it will be located in 2009.



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Barton Springs Road west of Lamar has the feel of a beach boulevard: casual restaurants, where flip-flops are de rigueur, line the entry to Zilker Park and Barton Springs. East of Lamar, the vibe is almost as casual, if more workaday, with small businesses, convenience stores, and office buildings dotted amid the restaurants. A new bistro on this stretch of road may be the first sign of its inevitable upgrade: Gypsy Italian restaurant. Even regular travelers on this street may not have noted its emergence, situated in a nondescript spot that seems to change hands regularly. Once inside the door, diners quickly realize this isn't a hastily thrown together venture but a discrete and ambitious undertaking into bistro dining.

The ambience falls somewhere between the arts centers that cast their literal and figurative shadow on Gypsy: the shiny, sophisticated Long Center and the funky, old-fashioned Dougherty Arts Center. Neither a meatball joint nor an exclusive dining destination, Gypsy seeks that sweet spot somewhere in the middle: the casual yet chic little room. Its intentions are clear upon entering, where the unremarkable exterior gives way to a charming little dining room of 18 or so tables. A small bar anchors the room, and the outdoors are brought in surprisingly via an exposed rear natural rock wall trickling with water. A skylight above the bucolic view provides ideal lighting prior to sundown. It would almost be twee if it weren't for real. In the works is a rooftop bar and nosh spot accessed via a rustic stone staircase next to the rock wall. It has the feeling of a secret hideaway, and when its full advantage is taken, it will be an ideal location to gaze at the ever-burgeoning Austin skyline.

Gypsy really makes its case with its menu, however. Chef Shawn Gamble learned his craft with the masters at Le Cordon Bleu and stirred pots in Italy before teaming up with Texas Culinary Academy grads Sherry Gordion and Janet Tran to open their dream bistro. With nary a red sauce in sight, Gypsy's inspiration comes from the northern regions of the boot.

Beginning options run the gamut from the ubiquitous calamari (\$8.95) to an almost-French wild-mushroom terrine (\$8.95). Round out the appetizer selections with bruschetta (\$5.95), and you could easily make a satisfying meal from the top portion of the menu. Salad options are especially tantalizing. Apparently the rule of the restaurant world is that all menus must include Caesar salad (\$7.95), and Gypsy isn't about to fight the law on this front. The now-commonplace caprese (\$9.95) also makes an appearance, but things get more interesting with the house salad of arugula, radicchio, frisée, and Parmesan, tossed with a balsamic vinaigrette (\$5.95). It's a lovely combination that provides a satisfying beginning to a meal. Even heartier, given its generous portion, is the arugula and pear salad with red

onion, candied walnuts, and Gorgonzola, all tossed with raspberry vinaigrette (\$7.95). Our eager and enthusiastic waiter suggested the salad be split between two diners, and even then, the portions were ample. Had we not been determined to delve into entrées, we would have sampled the Southwestern-influenced jalapeño corn bread *panzanella* (\$7.95). Next time.

Entrée options are hearty and offer beef, veal, lamb, chicken, pork, seafood, and a couple of vegetarian options – quite a broad scope for such a small dining room. Despite the tempting offers on the standard menu, the daily special of duck breast with blood-orange glaze proved too tempting to pass up. Other diners tried the salmon papillote with artichoke hearts, kalamata olives, and herb couscous (\$19.95) and the chicken piccata (veal is also available) with sugar snap peas (\$14.95).

The blood-orange version of the duck à la orange was half a plump, boneless breast atop a grilled rectangle of polenta, napped with an orange glaze that erred slightly on the too-sweet side. The duck was moist and rich under the protective cover of skin, and the skin itself was nicely crisped. The plate was garnished with some carefully trimmed sections of blood orange and accompanied by simply and skillfully prepared vegetables.

Even more successful was the salmon in parchment, cooked with tangy kalamata olives and artichoke hearts. Prettily presented atop herbed couscous, the salmon remained moist as it was encased in the paper during the cooking process. The briny tang of the olives and artichokes contrasted nicely with the silky salmon, resulting in a bright dish with lively flavors. In the chicken piccata, a tangy citrus sauce was tossed with nicely al dente pasta and studded with briny capers. It's a reliable dish and was competently prepared.

The enthusiasm of the staff is genuine and contagious; our waiter eagerly offered to help us with a wine selection (a nice bottle of Zaccagnini Sangiovese for \$34) and urged us to explore the unfinished rooftop dining area. A few details were overlooked: Even though the daylight faded, the candle on our table remained unlit. And perhaps as evidence of the heavily trafficked dining room, our menus were a bit shopworn. But overall, the waitstaff was attentive and solicitous. Despite the rapidly filling dining room, we were encouraged to linger and savor our experience.

Gypsy describes itself as a restaurant with a modern twist on Italian food. Many diners' preconceptions of Italian cuisine have evolved beyond spaghetti and meatballs, however, and to these people, the menu at Gypsy will appear more familiar than adventurous. There's not a lot of brand-new territory being carved out here. Nonetheless, it's obvious Gamble knows his way around a kitchen. The casual nature of Barton Springs Road is evolving with the sleek Palmer and Long centers and pastoral Town Lake Park. Gypsy has the potential to mirror the evolution to become a casual and chic dining destination fully at home on the newly polished Barton Springs.

– Barbara Chisholm

DIM SUM AT CHINATOWN RESTAURANT

3407 Greystone, 343-9307

Sunday-Thursday, 11am-10pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-10:30pm

Dim sum service: Saturday-Sunday, 11am-2:30pm

Ronald Cheng has 25 years of experience as a restaurateur in Austin, and with Chinatown's dim sum service, that experience shows. Chinatown occupies the upper floor of a stand-alone building on the southwest corner of Greystone and the MoPac frontage road, a few blocks north of Far West; Musashino Sushi Dokoro is on the lower level. One caveat is that for the disabled, Chinatown access could prove daunting.

Inside you'll find a sumptuous interior, all dark wood and lacquer, with red linen table settings and loads of Chinese decorative accents. There's a separate fully stocked bar and a very complete wine and *sake* list. The menu also features an assortment of upscale gourmet teas (\$10-40 per pot). The waitstaff hovers in black-and-white uniforms, providing excellent service.

The dim sum menu offers 53 different selections (actually more, since some of the items we sampled were not on the menu) in prices ranging from \$2.45 to \$6.95 for the special selections. Service is from carts, but one waiter implied that if you wanted a particular item from the menu, it would be brought. We never tested him, since there always seemed to be an infusion of new items into the circulating carts. As for the carts, kudos go to Chinatown for their service equipment: Their carts are heated so that all of the items arrive piping hot; pan-fried items are par-cooked and finished table-side on a portable griddle.

We started with a large savory timbale of sticky rice topped with copious slices of Chinese sausage (\$4.25): the rice with nice flavor and texture, the sausage rich and complementary. Chicken-mushroom pastry rolls (two for \$2.45) were less successful: the pastry sweet and flaky with a rather homogenous and nondistinctive savory filling. Pan-fried daikon cake (three, \$2.45) is nicely done: light-textured and golden-brown with bits of pork and dried shrimp. Baked barbecue pork bun (two, \$2.45) is excellent: a light, golden pastry with wonderful *char siu* pork interior. Pork pot sticker dumplings (three, \$3.25) are superb: a perfect wrapper stuffed with coarse minced pork.

Chicken-basil dumplings (three, \$3.25) are plump, flattened globes stuffed with forcemeat of minced chicken; we'd love more



JOHN ANDERSON

basil in the mixture, but they are superb. Shrimp-and-cilantro dumplings (two, \$4.25) are large, elongated steamed dumplings with a delicate wrapper and chunky shrimp filling; the cilantro taste is subtle. Steamed scallop dumplings (three, \$4.25) are delicious, stuffed with sweet scallops and crunchy water chestnuts. Hong Kong stalwart shrimp *chow fun* (three, \$4.25) is wonderful: a silky rice sheet enwrapping chunks of shrimp in enchilada or *banh cuon* fashion, topped with sweet soy sauce.

We loved our bacon-wrapped prawn roll with honey sauce (two, \$4.75). Minced shrimp is molded around a central stick of Chinese celery into a large log, which is then wrapped in bacon and browned off. It arrives in a puddle of sprightly citrus-honey sauce, which complements the shrimp and bacon quite well. Coffee-glazed pork spareribs (four, \$4.75) are a surprisingly good treat. The acid from the coffee balances nicely with brown sugar and spices; the ribs are very tender. And just to break the monotony of the pork and shrimp fest, we grabbed a rather large dish of fresh snow pea shoots, barely stir-fried with a little garlic and oyster sauce (\$4.75). Roughage is a good thing!

On our two trips, the Asian diners were out in force, especially families. They seemed to be just as content and satiated as we were once we reached our limit. Our advice: Stake out a table near the kitchen door, pace yourself, and enjoy some of Austin's best dim sum.

– Mick Vann

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DOWNTOWN

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DESSERTS: HALCYON You'll find all kinds of espresso and coffee drinks, wines, scotches, and even a chocolate espresso martini. Snack on their sandwiches and desserts in comfy lounge chairs. 218 W. Fourth, 472-9637. www.halcyonaustin.com. \$

BARBECUE: STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE One of Austin's premier rhythm-and-grub joints. Damn good barbecue. The gospel brunch on Sundays has become so popular that reservations are a must for both seatings. 801 Red River, 480-8341. www.stubbsaustin.com. \$\$

BURGER JOINT: MIKE'S PUB Climb the winding staircase, and indulge in one of Mike's legendary greasy hamburgers. Loyal clients swear they are the best. 108 E. Seventh, 479-6424. www.mikes-pub.com. \$

FINE DINING, FRENCH: AQUARELLE'S WINE BAR & PATIO If you're looking for a hasty yet sophisticated repast, this new wine bar at Austin's premier purveyor of the French experience is the ticket. Enjoy a tasty meal and fun wines in an elegant atmosphere before or after your evening on the town. 606 Rio Grande, 479-8117. www.aquarellerestaurant.com. \$\$\$

FINE DINING: THE BELMONT This gorgeous eatery and bar serves superb drinks to a sea of young professionals decked out and looking for fun. The service is the best in town, and the food is superb on some nights and middling on others. 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. www.belmontaustin.com. \$\$\$

INDIAN: THE CLAY PIT Best described as "contemporary Indian cuisine," pairing traditional Indian techniques and flavors with items such as mussels and salmon. 1601 Guadalupe, 322-5131. www.claypit.com. \$\$\$

ITALIAN, PIZZA: FRANK & ANGIE'S PIZZERIA Where the proprietors of Hut's Hamburgers prove they can make pizza and cannoli as well as they do burgers and fries. 508 West Ave., 472-3534. www.hutsfrankandangies.com. \$\$

PAN-ASIAN: IMPERIA Ground zero for the dim sum and small-plate craze, this place also features a good wine list. 310 Colorado, 472-6770. www.imperia-austin.com. \$\$\$

STEAKHOUSE: FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR The main attraction is perfectly prepared beef presented in a comfortable, clubby setting and enhanced by an extensive wine list and accomplished service. 320 E. Second, 457-1500. www.flemingssteakhouse.com. \$\$\$\$

TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEÓN TACO EXPRESS The satellite location of this Eastside favorite is only open for breakfast and lunch, but you'll find the same chile con queso, tacos, and combination dinners that you crave. 1500 San Jacinto, 236-8226. www.nuevoleoninaustin.com. \$

VIETNAMESE: MEKONG RIVER Formerly known as Pho Công Lý, Mekong River has the same pho, but you can't listen to Abba until 2am. A staple for quick, cheap, and tasty meals. 215 E. Sixth, 236-8878. www.mekongriveronsixth.com. \$

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE: ARKIE'S GRILL This cafe has been around since 1948, maintaining the same super-home-style menus and hospitable spirit. Thursday's turkey-and-dressing special is highly recommended. 4827 E. Cesar Chavez, 385-2986. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: BOSSA NOVA The menu is inspired by Brazilian cuisine and features vegetable-packed "natural style" sandwiches, as well as a full lunch menu, and don't pass up the fresh baked goods. 2121 E. Sixth, 478-8700. www.bossanovaustin.com. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY Find the same great pastry and sandwich offerings as the Hyde Park location, as well as the addition of grilled sandwiches and pizzas. 1400 E. 38½, 538-1991. www.quacksaustin.com. \$

BARBECUE: SAM'S BBQ Late-night hours make this spot popular with jazz musicians, but the great barbecue keeps folks of every occupation coming back any time of the day or night. 2000 E. 12th, 478-0378. \$

BURGER JOINT: GUS' GRILL In addition to great, cheap hamburger baskets, the sampler platter allows you to try almost everything on the menu. 3223 E. Seventh, 385-8898. www.gusgrill.com. \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL CHILE CAFE Y CANTINA The bill of fare features some Tex-Mex dishes, several interior specialties, and a number of good vegetarian options. 1809 Manor Rd., 457-9900. www.elchilecafe.com. \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: GENE'S NEW ORLEANS STYLE POBOYS & DELI The royalty of New Orleans-style soul food in Austin. The po'boys are the real deal, and the fantastic daily soul-food specials keep the place hopping at lunchtime. 1209 E. 11th, 477-6600. www.genesrestaurant.com. \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: HOOVER'S COOKING Dishing out huge portions of freshly cooked, Southern-style home cooking such as jerk pork ribs, the bella mufaletta, and heavenly pork chops, this place remains a popular standby. 2002 Manor Rd., 479-5006. www.hooverscooking.com. \$

TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA This brightly painted spot still offers seafood specials on weekends. The soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. 7210 Cameron, 451-5318. \$

TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts: gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. 2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872. www.juaninamillion.com. \$

TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEÓN Cavernous, friendly restaurant offering cheap combination plates. Decorated almost exclusively in pink and green, adorned with Texas-shaped mirrors and many Christmas lights. Serious date potential. 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097. www.nuevoleoninaustin.com. \$

TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA CHAPALA JALISCO This taqueria features cheap breakfast specials and Jalisco-style barbacoa by the plate or pound. 2101 E. Cesar Chavez, 320-0308. \$

LAKE

BARBECUE: OPIE'S BARBECUE Get there in a hurry, because the pork chops go fast. The usual sides of coleslaw, beans, and potato salad keep them company. 125 Spur 191 Ste. A, 830/693-8660. www.opiesbarbecue.nv.switchboard.com. \$

FINE DINING, ITALIAN, SEAFOOD: ROCCO'S GRILL Overlooking the hills of Lakeway, its pasta and seafood selections are the way to go. 900 RR 620 S., 263-8204. www.roccosgrill.com. \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: IGUANA GRILL A medium-priced menu offers most of the standards, but the flautas and sauces really stand out. Fabulous margaritas and a stellar beer selection go well with a killer view. 2900 RR 620 N., 266-8439. www.iguanaquillaustin.com. \$

NORTH

AMERICAN CAFE: STAR SEEDS CAFE This institution has been around since the Armadillo days, when hungry cosmic cowboys restored themselves at its booths. Breakfast selections galore. 3101 N. I-35, 478-7107. \$

CHINESE, INDIAN: MASALA WOK Ethnic fusion that offers traditional Indian fare as well as Indo-Chinese dishes: a blend of wok-cooking and Indian spices with plenty of vegetarian options. 1100 Center Ridge, 251-9696. www.masalawok.com. \$

CHINESE: T&S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT This Chinese seafood restaurant is the choice for many local chefs and restaurateurs on their days off. The Cantonese seafood selections and dim sum stand out. 10014 N. Lamar, 339-8434. \$

INDIAN: SHALIMAR RESTAURANT Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. 9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700. www.shalimar-austin.com. \$

JAPANESE: SUSHI SAKE They take their sake seriously, serving premium brands cold (as their makers intended). Second, they have a long sushi bar with some of the most beautiful fish in Austin. 9503 Research #500, 527-0888. \$\$\$

MIDDLE EASTERN: BYBLOS FALAFEL & DELI Think authentic Lebanese comfort food (*tabikh*), enormous servings, inexpensive prices, and warm, friendly natives doing the cooking. Everything here is fresh and handmade, and even the vegans get to stuff themselves. 13000 N. I-35 Bldg. 12 #204, 490-1212. \$

PAN-ASIAN: TC NOODLE HOUSE A mind-boggling array of authentic Chinese- and Vietnamese-style dishes with an emphasis on variety. Kudos include a clean, friendly environment and hard-to-beat prices. 10901 N. Lamar Ste. B-203, 873-8235. www.chinatownaustin.com. \$

SEAFOOD: OPAL DIVINE'S MARINA This menu features some seasonal seafood items in addition to favorite Opal's staples. 12709 N. MoPac, 733-5353. www.opaldivines.com. \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE It's unusual to find both Southern comfort food and great steaks under the same roof. They've been slingin' three hots a day long enough to make it work. 11800 N. Lamar #6, 835-2414. \$

THAI: BANGKOK CUISINE They boast a clientele loyal to the array of stellar vegetarian dishes, and their pad thai (with or without meat) is said to be memorable. 9041 Research, 832-9722. \$

continued on p.60

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NORTH CENTRAL

AMERICAN CAFE, CHAIN: BENNIGAN'S GRILL & TAVERN The Irish-themed grill and tavern has a lengthy menu with something for just about everyone. 7604 N. I-35, 451-7953. www.bennigans.com. \$\$

BURGER JOINT, TEX-MEX: JALAPEÑO JOE'S Present yourself at the window, and order an Angus beef burger or the pile of Tex-Mex sustenance known as the Alonzo Platter, but save room for Ernest's Enchiladas. 4905 Airport, 451-3326. \$

CHINESE, JAPANESE: PEI WEI ASIAN DINER A sleek diner atmosphere and affordable favorites keep us coming back for lunch and dinner. Choose your own combinations for noodle and rice bowls. 1000 E. 41st (Hancock Center), 382-3860. www.peiwei.com. \$

INDIAN: TAJ PALACE Austin's longest-established local Indian restaurant, where the royal court cuisine of North India is served in an attractive setting. 6700 Middle Fiskville, 452-9959. www.tajpalaceaustin.net. \$\$

ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. 6406 N. I-35, 419-1220. www.carrabbas.com. \$\$\$

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. 6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111. \$\$

PAN-ASIAN: MAMA FU'S ASIAN HOUSE Drop by to eat in or take out. The ingredients are fresh, and the service is great. 4615 N. Lamar, 637-6773. www.mamafusaustin.com. \$\$

TEX-MEX: JULIO'S CAFE The vegetarian taco with perfectly grilled zucchini and summer squash is a favorite, along with the enchiladas, chalupas, and fajitas. 4230 Duval St., 452-1040. \$

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE: GREEN MUSE CAFE Drinks, pastries, gatherings, bands, Wi-Fi, and movies make this coffee shop a community hangout. 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789. www.myspace.com/green_muse. \$

BURGER JOINT: DAN'S HAMBURGERS One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's hamburger king, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. 4308 Manchaca, 443-6131. \$

CHINESE: MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT Beer and wine served amidst quick but flavorful entrées gives the authentically Oriental decor an American twist. 212 E. Oltorf, 445-2225. \$

CHINESE: MARCO POLO RESTAURANT It lures quality-lovers in with the promise of a never-ending lunch buffet, but diners are seduced by the surprisingly fresh choices laid out every day. 2200 S. I-35, 445-5563. \$\$

PIZZA: ALJON'S PIZZA In addition to excellent pizza, this unassuming neighborhood gem serves lasagna, ravioli, manicotti, subs, calzones. 1945 E. Oltorf, 851-8686. \$\$

TEX-MEX: CASA GARCIA'S Offers a wide selection of traditional Tex-Mex favorites as well as an enticing array of Interior Mexican dishes. The cabrito is worth a return visit. 1901 W. William Cannon, 441-9504. www.casagarcias.net. \$\$

TEX-MEX: MATT'S EL RANCHO This immensely popular Tex-Mex icon is a food-happy dispenser of giant margaritas, excellent enchiladas, and craving-curbing quesadillas. 2613 S. Lamar, 462-9333. www.mattselrancho.com. \$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: DAVINE FOODS ORGANIC CUISINE Located inside the Enchanted Forest, this laid-back vegan spot boasts all-organic ingredients in every dish. The menu features vegan, vegetarian, and living food options. 1412 W. Oltorf, 448-3100. www.davinefoods.com. \$

VIETNAMESE: HAI KY Spare in decor but meticulously clean. The menu features a mix of Viet noodle-house items, from appetizers to pho, bun, and rice plates, with a smattering of Chinese stir-fries thrown in for the timid or uninformed. 1931 E. Oltorf, 693-2464. www.myspace.com/haikeyonline. \$

UT

AMERICAN CAFE: KERBEY LANE CAFE Famously fabulous for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and a favorite of the late-night set. It wears its groovy legacy on its sleeve, with Frisbee-sized pancakes, pastas, black beans, and great coffee. 2606 Guadalupe, 477-5717. www.kerbeylanecafe.com. \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE This cozy old North Campus bungalow serves coffee drinks, juice, and beer, as well as a small, eclectic vegetarian menu in a comfortably shabby atmosphere. 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. www.spiderhousecafe.com. \$

BRAZILIAN: SÃO PAULO'S Offering Tex-Mex dishes as well as Brazilian cuisine, like their version of the national dish, feijoada, São Paulo's has constantly changing daily specials that shouldn't be missed. 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988. \$\$

CHINESE: YEN CHING NOODLE HOUSE Get your noodle fix with homemade noodles and fantastic *ma po dofu*. 2910 Guadalupe, 472-4754. \$

FRENCH, JAPANESE: THE FUSE BOX Billed as "fun, fresh, fusion," this spot serves up fresh salads such as cranberry with goat cheese and shrimp with melon. The bento boxes are varied and reasonably priced. 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, first floor), 236-0207. \$

PIZZA: MILTO'S Longtime UT-area institution serving both Italian and Greek specialties. The wonderful weekday lunch specials are both filling and cheap. 2909 Guadalupe, 476-1021. \$\$

PUB GRUB: CROWN & ANCHOR PUB Smooth pool tables, solid dartboards, tasty burgers, and a healthy selection of beers. Five hi-def screens round out your evening. 2911 San Jacinto, 322-9168. www.myspace.com/crownandanchorp. \$

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S TEXAS STAR A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 409 W. 30th, 477-2935. www.trudys.com. \$\$

THAI: THAI NOODLES ETC. HOUSE A good selection of Thai street foods, including Thai noodle soups, dry noodle bowls, and stir-fry noodles. 2602 Guadalupe, 494-1011. \$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. 1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013. \$

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: THE FRISCO SHOP Still cooking a bang-up breakfast after all these years. Not only are they generous with the biscuits, but both orange juice and coffee are included with the special. 5819 Burnet Rd., 459-6279. www.thefriscosop.com. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: THE KITCHEN DOOR Don't miss the meat-loaf sandwich and creamy chicken salad at this takeout spot. The baked goods here such as cinnamon rolls, cream-cheese brownies, and Texas spice cake epitomize old-fashioned cooking. 3742 Far West, 794-1100. \$

BARBECUE: BERT'S BAR-B-Q The chicken still rocks the yard, but with those ribs as an opener, you can't lose. 3563 Far West, 345-2378. www.bertsbbq.com. \$

BURGER JOINT: BURGER HOUSE The only thing better than the burgers is Jack's Famous Fries, liberally doused in their secret herbed salt. And the only thing better than the fries are the handmade milkshakes. 4211 Spicewood Springs Rd., 346-7200. www.burgerhouse.com. \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: TAKEOUT: LITTLE DELI Nestled in one end of the Crestview shopping center. Orders are placed at the counter, and the service is relaxed and friendly. 7101-A Woodrow, 467-7402. www.littledeli.biz. \$

DESSERTS, FINE DINING: CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Voluptuous, decadent brunch items are served with signature croissants and strawberry butter. Dinner options span a wide range, from pastas to chicken dishes to a variety of salads. 5406 Balcones, 454-2666. www.chezee.com. \$\$\$

INDIAN: BOMBAY GRILL Be sated by one of the biryanis or the Aloo Paratha, whole-wheat bread stuffed with potatoes and peas. 3249 Bee Caves Rd., 329-0234. \$\$

JAPANESE: BENIHANA The cuisine has been infiltrated by its surroundings, producing the Texas roll, made with smoked salmon, avocado, cucumber, cream cheese, and jalapeño. 9070 Research, 451-7505. www.benihana.com. \$\$\$

PIZZA: MARY'S GOURMET PIZZA You may crave a conventional Margherita pizza or something really wild like the Diablo - a combination of Roma tomatoes, chipotle mayonnaise, red onions, smoked turkey, and jalapeño jack cheese. 3663 Bee Caves Rd., 327-5222. www.marysgourmetpizza.com. \$\$

SEAFOOD: CATFISH PARLOUR When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish fry. 11910 Research, 258-1853. www.catfishparlour.com. \$\$

TEX-MEX: CHUY'S Hubcaps, colored lights, and a Velvet Elvis; this is Austin-style Tex-Mex at its tacky, funky best. Almost always busy. 11680 Research, 342-0011. www.chuys.com. \$\$

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RULES

- 1) One ballot per person, per envelope! No exceptions!
- 2) Name, address, and phone must be filled in to be counted.
- (For verification purposes only; we do not share this information with anyone.)
- 3) No photocopied ballots.
- 4) Restaurants may not collect ballots and send them in en masse.

This info must be complete for your ballot to be counted.

Name

Address

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E-mail

In an average month, how many times do you eat at restaurants (not fast food)?

the austin chronicle READERS

RESTAURANT POLL 2008

Fill out this paper ballot, and:

MAIL it to:
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HAND DELIVER it to:
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VOTE ONLINE
austinchronicle.com/restpoll

Ballots must be postmarked, submitted online, or hand-delivered to our offices by Monday, April 21. Results will be published in the May 16 issue.

Bon appétit!



BEST ETHNIC/SPECIALTY RESTAURANT

Mexican (non-Tex-Mex)

Tex-Mex

Taqueria

Italian

Cajun/Creole

Middle Eastern

Indian

Chinese

Japanese

Korean

Thai

Vietnamese

Other Oriental/Asian

American

Vegetarian/Natural Food

French

Other Ethnic (German, Cuban, etc.; specify type and restaurant name.)

Type:

Restaurant name:

BEST OTHER STUFF

New Restaurant (opened in 2007-08)

Chef (Specify chef's name and restaurant name.)

Chef's name:

Restaurant name:

Service/Best Waitstaff

Full-Service Bakery/Pastry Shop

Grocery Store

Ethnic Market

Patio/Beer Garden

Street Food (Specify item and vendor's name.)

Street food item:

Street food vendor:

Decor

Romantic Dinner Spot

Sunday Brunch

Fast Food

Takeout

Delivery

Wine List

Mixologist

Beer Selection

Buffet

Happy Hour/Free or Cheap Deal (Specify deal and restaurant name.)

Happy hour/deal:

Restaurant name:

Late Night/All Night

Place to Take Kids

Place to Take Parents

Restaurant Within 60 Miles of Austin

Place We Wish Were Still Open

Any Other Restaurant Worth Noting

Food Event

FAVORITE RESTAURANT

(List up to three.)

1)

2)

3)

BEST DISHES

(List restaurants at which the best of these are found.)

Appetizers

Barbecue

Hamburger

Steak

Comfort Food

Chicken-Fried Steak

Chile-Pepper Dish

French Fries

Hot Dog

Chips and Hot Sauce

Taco

Soup

Salad/Dressing

Seafood Dish

Pub Grub

Bagels

Sushi

Tofu Dish

Dim Sum

Bowl of Pho

American Breakfast

Mexican Breakfast

Sandwich

Bread

Dessert

Ice Cream

Gelato

Local Chocolate

Coffee

Pizza

Enchiladas

Vegetables

Chicken Dish

Wild-Game Dish

Bargain (Specify dish and restaurant name.)

Dish:

Restaurant name:

Veggie Burger

Vegetarian Dish



austinchronicle.com/restpoll

screens

64 GREEN GAMES

66 TV EYE

94 FILM LISTINGS

You Do It to Yourself, and That's What Really Hurts Humans wreaking havoc on Mother Earth, one disaster movie at a time

THE HOST (2006)

D: Joon-ho Bong; with Kang-ho Song, Hie-bong Byeon, Hae-il Park, Du-na Bae, Ah-sung Ko
File Under: Something Wicked This Way Worms

The days of tying damsels to train tracks while wearing a monocle and stroking a cat are dead and gone, which means cinema villains now have to blithely pour gallons of formaldehyde into the water supplies of major foreign cities to prove the depths of their wickedness. Of course, to be considered sinister in this day and age, it also helps to be an American (we Americans are quickly becoming the new Germans in world cinema: ruthless, destructive, and indifferent to local sentiment, though probably more bumbling than cunning). Anyway, three cheers for South Korean director Joon-ho Bong's *The Host* for reveling in the absurdity of the environmental damage we humans do when we try to destroy the results of whatever environmental damage we've already done (in this case, a 30-foot mutant worm with a cranky disposition and a form that brings to mind the later work of both George Lucas and Georgia O'Keefe – and how often can you say that?) while celebrating the banana-peel-slipping, pie-in-the-face humor at the heart of any good nationwide institutional panic. – Josh Rosenblatt

NIGHT OF THE LEPUS (1972)

D: William F. Claxton; with Stuart Whitman, Rory Calhoun, Janet Leigh
File Under: Bad Hare Day

"Oh noes," as Net kiddies might say, "epic pwnage by teh killer bunnehz!" In this B-grade thriller from perennial TV director Claxton, giant man-eating conneys are what come of a rancher's ill-advised tampering with the genetics of "mongrel rabbits" that have been devastating his crops. They don't actually instigate a worldwide apocalypse, the resultant cute-but-scary hares of hate, able only to terrorize a portion of the Southwestern United States before being conquered by a variation of the good ol' American ingenuity that caused them to go gonzo-monstro in the first place. Science giveth, and science taketh away faster than you can say, "Harry Angstrom," it seems, when wielded by the well-meaning humans in this 24-carrot gem of lousy eco-horror. – Wayne Alan Brenner

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW (2004)

D: Roland Emmerich; with Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm, Emmy Rossum
File Under: Ice Capades

Sure, I snickered at the cineplex along with everybody else at Los Angeles' demolition in this Golden Rule depiction of eco-disaster end-times (to recap: Love your Mother Earth, lest she bite back with an awesome typhoon-and-ice fury). Then I moved into the Hollywood Hills, where my daily dog walks put me again and again in the eye line of the Capitol Records building, so memorably razed to the ground by tornado in Emmerich's film (as if the town didn't already have its hands full with earthquakes, brush fires, mud slides, and any number of celebutards). Now L.A.'s not the best place for a disasterphobe: I freely admit to an apocalypse kit,

stocked with canned goods, bottled water, batteries, and – *don't judge* – mail-order "anti-radiation pills." (Hey, I knew a guy whose "kit" included a samurai sword.) But when you're staring every day at a cinematic signpost of the doomsday still to come, wondering if *today* is gonna be the day that precedes the day after tomorrow, suddenly that snickering feels like the happy ignorance of an innocent, or an idiot. – Kimberley Jones

CODE 46 (2003)

D: Michael Winterbottom; with Samantha Morton, Tim Robbins
File Under: Genetic Tomfoolery

Code 46 isn't one of those bad/good disaster movies, and the terror in its future vision lies less in its premise than in what we see behind the action. Its somber (and, frankly, rather confusing) plot has to do with the perils of genetic tinkering (basically, you can end up having sex with your kids, or possibly even yourself) and what happens when you break the titular law that tries to address those consequences. That, though, adds up to your basic forbidden-love story; what sticks in the mind is the film's setting: a bleak, arid earth with a killing sun and absence of apparent fertility. Shot largely in Dubai and Shanghai, the film posits a future corporate government and a battle with solar radiation – rush hour occurs at midnight, no one goes out unarmed against the elements – but also deepened class divisions that lead to full-blown exile of the less fortunate, banned from the eerily gleaming, cool-interiored cities and left to forage in the desert. It's the not-with-a-bang ending most of us anticipate these days, and *Code 46* quietly assumes that slow wane. – Cindy Widner

THE DAY THE EARTH CAUGHT FIRE (1962)

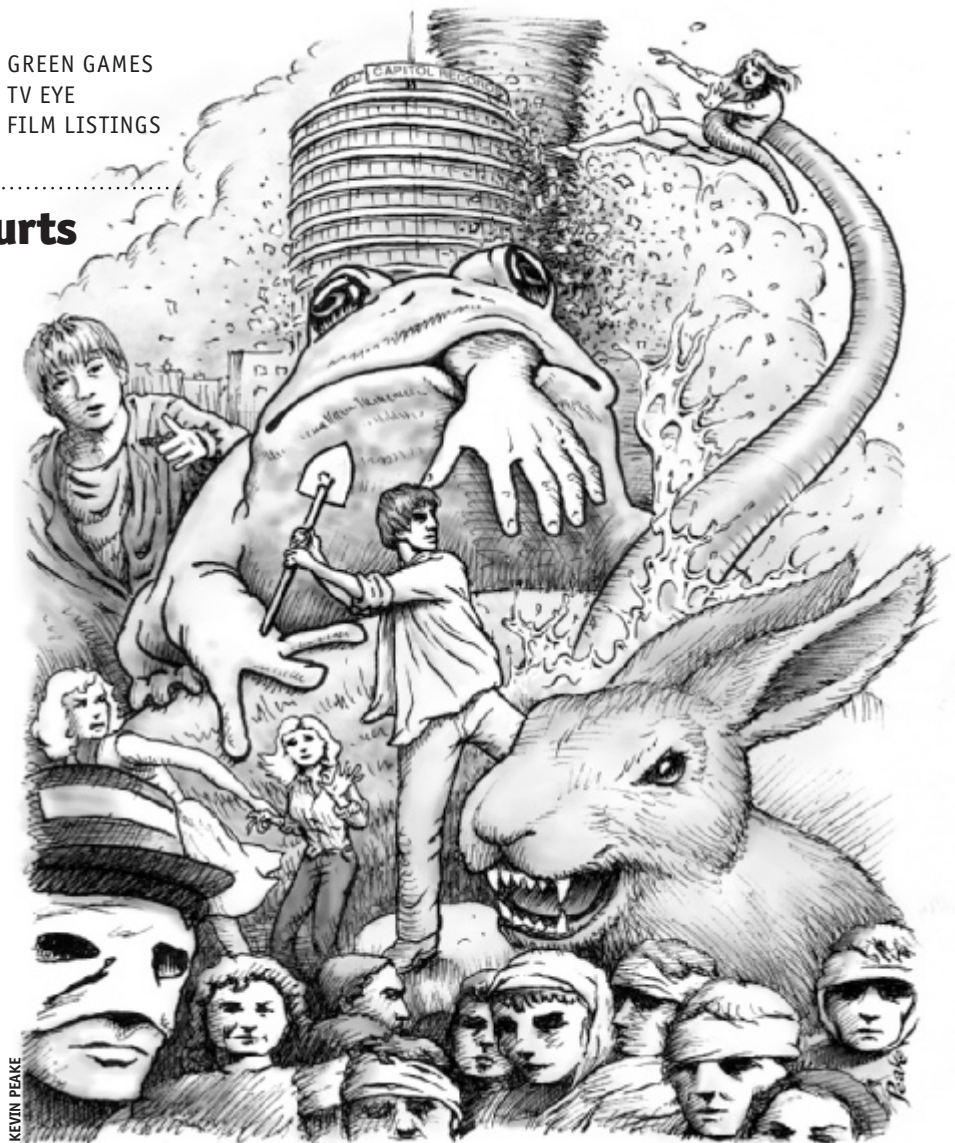
D: Val Guest; with Leo McKern, Janet Munro
File Under: Globe, Warmed

"To the luck of the human race," says the perennially rumpled Leo McKern as he toasts the end of the world with a glass of water. Possibly the most polite apocalyptic movie ever made, this English doom-a-thon is mostly set in the offices of the real *Daily Express* newspaper, whose staff uncovers the world's temperature is spiraling out of control and everyone is going to die unless they get the story out (thus proving, once and for all, that journalists will save humanity). Originally, it was an atomic terror movie, with the U.S. and USSR setting off nuclear bombs at the North and South Poles, sending the Earth wobbling a little too close to the sun. But now it plays as a global warming movie, with the streets of London turned into arid dust-tracks, the ever-flowing Thames a dried-up riverbed, the evergreen Hyde Park a desert, and (gasp, shock) ladies wearing bikinis. Scandalous. – Richard Whittaker

28 DAYS LATER (2002)

D: Danny Boyle; with Cillian Murphy, Naomie Harris, Brendan Gleeson, Christopher Eccleston
File Under: A Ragin' Zombie Party

With his 2002 foray into zombie horror, British director Danny Boyle reminds us why



we should have listened to our mothers when they told us to follow directions: If you don't, you could potentially eradicate the human race. When overzealous animal-rights activists break into a primate research lab in Cambridge, intent on releasing imprisoned chimpanzees, they are warned by a scientist that the chimps are infected with something he calls "rage." The activists ignore the scientist, release the chimps, and are subsequently infected. Fast-forward four weeks, or, uh, 28 days, and we learn that "rage" has decimated the UK and possibly the world; way to go, PETA-heads! Some may argue that the film is a metaphor for our infection-paranoid culture (witness our love affair with antibacterial soaps and hand sanitizers, not to mention the global pants-peeking sparked by the SARS "epidemic"), but we just call it damn scary. – Melanie Haupt

THREADS (1984)

D: Mick Jackson; with Karen Meagher, Reece Dinsdale, David Brierly, Rita May
File Under: The Fallout From Fallout

Sure, you scoff, is it possible to differentiate industro-drab Sheffield, England, before and after nuclear Armageddon? After watching harrowing British import *Threads* – peeking through your fingers, preferably with a ready sick-bucket – you can. Made for the BBC at the height of the Cold War, in unflinching documentary-style, *Threads* follows Britannia's collateral damage destruction in a Russian-American nuclear war – and makes domestic miniseries *The Day After* look like a pub-hopping hangover. From an all-too-plausible escalation to the visceral, horrific blast, *Threads'*

bleakest moments come as survivors endeavor to preserve some semblance of civilization – the frayed threads of human connection – only to encounter death and feral madness. Quickly shelved in England and making only sporadic stateside appearances, this magisterial dystopia's taken on a life all its own – where else? – online. (Search *Threads* on Google Video for the full program.) – Wells Dunbar

FROGS (1972)

D: George McCowan; with Ray Milland, Sam Elliott, Adam Roarke
File Under: Amphibians Run Amok

"It's not the end of the world, but with all our technology and all my money, we still can't get rid of these frogs. Interesting, isn't it?" Very: Released by American International Pictures in 1972 on a double bill with *Godzilla vs. the Smog Monster*, *Frogs* still has the power to unnerve. Twenty-six years after winning an Academy Award for *The Lost Weekend*, Ray Milland, cast here as an officious, wheelchair-bound Big Daddy in white linen suit and matching Floridian mansion, suffers a different sort of creepy-crawl when his family's Fourth of July gathering is invaded by all things amphibian. A very young Sam Elliott, as an earnest wildlife photographer, is on hand to witness nature in revolt, but the real stars of this Southern-Gothic-by-way-of-*Creepshow* are the stoically malevolent croakers 'n' hissing and the oppressive, swampy locale (atmospherically lensed by director of photography Mario Tosi). By the time Milland meets his match in Michigan J. Frog's bloaty minions, it's all you can do not to grab a gig and start stabbing at shadows. Ribbit up. – Marc Savlov

The Serious Play in Saving the World

Gaming gets on the sustainability bandwagon

BY JON LEBKOWSKY

The mind-boggling evolution of video game environments over the last decade is not just about play; it's about the growing sophistication of visual and logical environments imagined in such detail that they are truly "virtual realities" almost indistinguishable from the physical. We are also seeing the creation of massively social Internet-connected environments like *Second Life* and *World of Warcraft*, where people work creatively together as avatars building in-world skills, fully stepping into alternate realities and learning to manipulate those environments according to their whims and passions.

Inevitably we begin to look for ways to link these virtual realities with the physical. One example: increasingly sophisticated war games, where military training may include virtual reality experiences simulating real-world combat. War games or simulations have been part of military thinking at least since the invention of the game *Kriegspiel*, which was used to train Prussian officers in the 1800s.

But there might also be peace games. In 1961, R. Buckminster Fuller proposed an alternative to war games, called the World Game (or World Peace Game), which was part of Fuller's Design Science Revolution. He saw the world operating at a 4% mechanical efficiency and asserted that, if we could operate at 12% efficiency, we could accommodate everybody — humanity would be sustainable, poverty would go away, etc. The World Game was also related to his concept of the Geoscope, a globe 200 feet in diameter where you could map the limited resources of "Spaceship Earth." Fuller saw the game as a way to "make the world work for 100% of humanity in the shortest possible time through spontaneous cooperation without ecological damage or disadvantage to anyone." A virtual world game inspired by the World Game could, like the military's war games, have serious real-world implications.

When Bucky created the World Game, he was working with a logical and conceptual model far ahead of the technology required for detailed simulation. Imagine the fun if he and Will Wright (creator of *SimCity* and *Spore*) had been contemporaries. Imagine Bucky working with the Metaverse Roadmap, which talks about "the convergence of 1) virtually-enhanced physical reality and 2) physically-persistent virtual space." Though Bucky's not here to make that happen, visionary green architect Pliny Fisk, director of Austin's Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems and one of Bucky's conceptual descendants, is thinking a lot about the potential for virtual worlds to support sustainability modeling linked to the physical environment. Fisk, described by Robert Bryce in these pages as an "inventor, tinkerer, architect, activist, environmentalist, and malcontent, all rolled into one energetic blur," sees data, increasingly available in digital formats, as "the real life of the city. The life blood, the flow of things, of

the city and how a city works." As it becomes digital, you can capture this "life blood" and store it in computers for visualization and manipulation. Fisk has been considering how you could use real-world data in virtual environments to model what he calls *EcoBalance*, the name of a board game he proposed in 2000, where "participants plan land uses at a settlement or regional scale according to the footprints required to balance natural resource supply and sync functions (i.e., natural capital) with human life support needs."

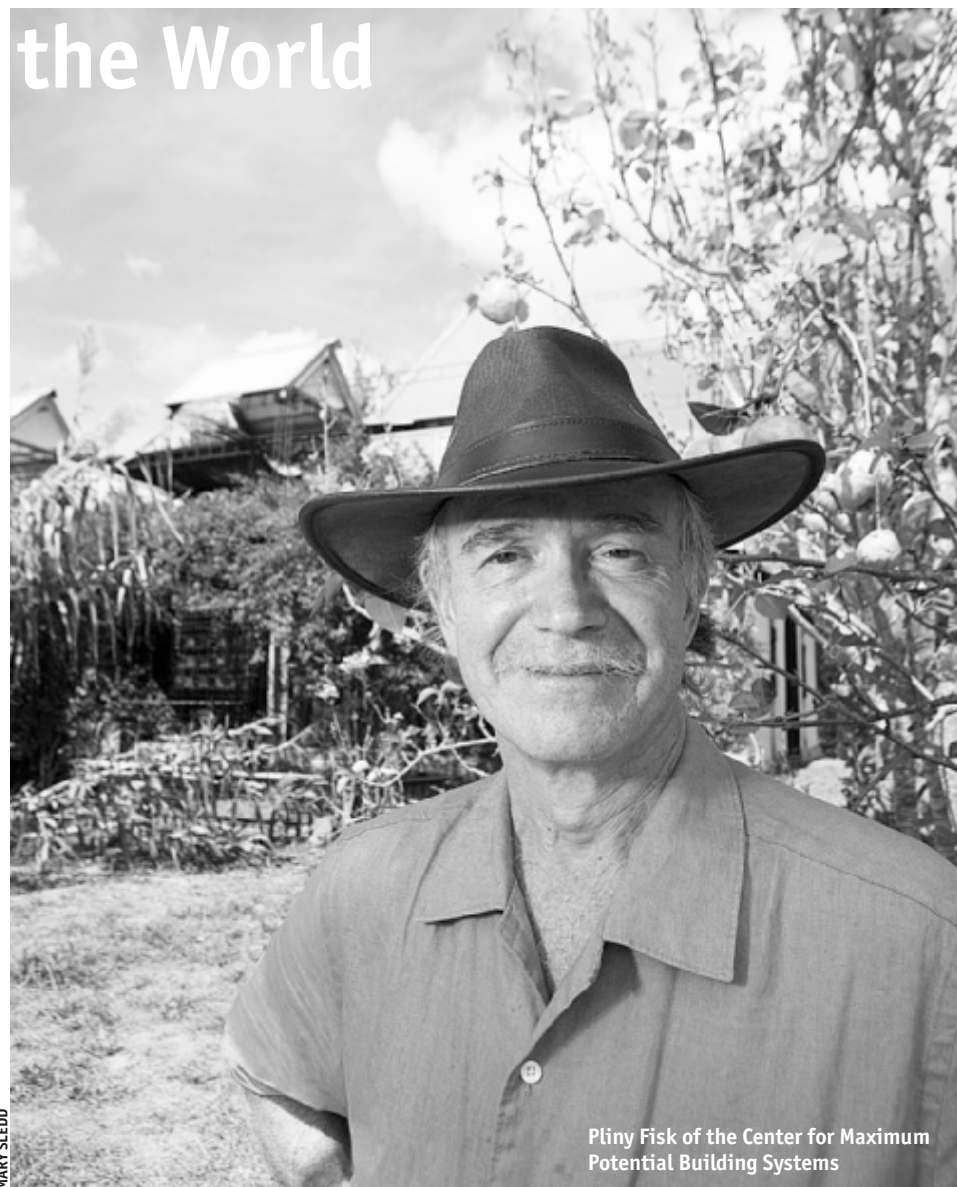
EcoBalance could evolve to be something more than a board game via Fisk's interest in digital convergence — increasingly realistic, detailed visualizations; fatter storage and faster CPUs; growing broad adoption of personal digital systems including mobile devices; and powerful support for in-world interactivity in massively multiplayer environments like *Second Life*.

Nobody's done much with sustainability in games so far, according to futurist Jamais Cascio, co-founder of Worldchanging and an author of the Metaverse Roadmap. "There are a handful of games out there with an explicit sustainability/environmental/climate focus," he says, "but most combine earnestness with a lack of complexity, so they're neither terribly fun nor terribly challenging. The last game that came close was *SimEarth*, one of the first post-*SimCity* games. Nobody could accuse *SimEarth* of a lack of complexity, but it was only fun for the handful of us interested in playing with complex system simulations."

Cascio says that Wright's persistently near-release computer game *Spore*, "which allows the player to build up a world from initial single-cell life to a multiplanet interstellar empire, is strongly influenced by ecological models and science." They're not the focus, though. There are also "cameo appearances" by sustainability and environmental issues in a number of games, like *SimCity* (which had wind farms and solar plants) and *Civilization*. Even more interesting is "the accidental emergence of ecological processes in the increasingly complex virtual worlds — such as the spread of a 'pandemic disease' in ... *World of Warcraft*."

"In terms of both the power of gaming computers and the proliferation of citizen awareness about environmental issues," Cascio says, "there hasn't been a better time to introduce a game with a strong sustainability or eco-focus."

Fisk has been thinking hard about how to build a green game that's engaging and fun but with serious real-world implications, such as location-specific modeling of the balance that sustainability requires. One kind of game would focus on and simulate real city environments. It would explore models that maximize efficiency and minimize the environmental impact of the built environment. Fisk sees four flows that would be relevant: materiality flow, energy flow, information flow, and monetary flow.



Pliny Fisk of the Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems

"Any one of those things can work related to the others," he says, "but they can also work independently. One measure of a city, from an information standpoint, is how much of the information network is actually reinforcing that place. How many newsletters and how many organizations and how many information sources are actually supporting and talking about the city, its people, its business?" There are also social information flows. "You could link people based on similar attributes and needs and so on. It's very much a peer-to-peer and can be a place-oriented way of operating." So an eco-game might include a city-centric social network.

Looking at the materiality flow, you would consider materials of every type — for example, building materials, food materials, or components of the water life-cycle system in any building. If you have real-world data for these flows, you can play with variations to see how you would redesign the flows and the systems to approach zero impact on the environment.

Overall, says Fisk, "the whole system becomes in some ways very resilient in that there are many entry points from different flow topic areas into everything that deals with life support issues." The life support issues are a spectrum between what he calls the "book-ends": On one end, the bookend is nature preserved, extropy — all things that preserve and

affirm life and balance. On the other end, you have biohazards, flood zones, issues of foundations and settlement, and repositories of toxic substances. Between those are all the life support topics dealing with air, water, food, energy, and materials. "Those things are cycles within cycles within cycles," he says, "but they all deal with some specific issue of metabolism, of how the city functions as a breathing system, as an air system." Actual buildings and environments in the real world might have embedded sensors or scannable codes through which their data is accessible to players in the game environment. Everybody would be collaborating on aspects of the model, looking for transformations that support true sustainability.

Integrating games based on cooperative, collaborative design with localized social networks and group-forming activity could result in powerful community development, online and off-line. As new sustainability-focused, technology-mediated communities evolve and grow, we'll see real-time meeting, sharing, and playing that will create new layers of possible actions and innovative solutions that nobody's thought about yet. And this is great, because no government is going to make sustainability happen fast enough, and no corporation is going to sell it to us in a neat package. Massively multiplayer grassroots creativity may be the wave of the only future we've got. ■



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TV EYE

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BY BELINDA ACOSTA

You know you're old when certain elements of your youth make a return as the new, hip thing in middle age. First, it was hip-huggers. Lately, it's been the green movement. When I was a kid, it was alternately known as the "conservation movement" and later as "environmentalism." In grade school, we were routinely reminded not to be a litterbug through the "Give a Hoot! Don't Pollute" campaign. We returned used pop bottles (okay, it was the source of our penny candy fund, but still — we were recycling). It was never cool to be environmentally conscious; it was merely the sensible, responsible thing to do. So it's curious to me (and I imagine to others of my generation) how the cool factor has been infused into all this talk of being green, as if just doing it because it's good for you isn't enough. Whatever. If that's what it takes to make you clean up after yourself, I'm all for it! Every day should be Earth Day.

Green programming appears in large and small ways on TV this coming week. NBC Universal will provide green content nightly on the **NBC Nightly News With Brian Williams, Access Hollywood**, and on their various websites. Interstices on **Bravo** and **Oxygen** will provide "green tips," while



Amy Berliner (of Amy's Organics) in *Big Ideas for a Small Planet*

USA Network will change its slogan from "Characters Welcome" to "Environmentalists Welcome" for the week of April 21.

The Dish Network's **Documentary Channel** will air a series of green-themed programs on Earth Day (April 22) in a special programming block called Earthview. Five hourlong documentaries will look at the coral reef, oil, global warming, biofuels, and the rain forest, respec-

tively. Programming begins at 6pm. Check your provider listings for more information.

When it comes to cool, it's the **Sundance Channel** that has truly gone eco-chic, with the return of the Green, a monthlong presentation of documentaries alongside the engaging series **Big Ideas for a Small Planet**. Each episode poses an "Imagine a world ..." question to the viewer based on the topic, followed by three or more segments on people or things that are making a big difference in saving the planet following the chosen topic.

What I love about *Big Ideas for a Small Planet* is that it's so bombastically optimistic. Yes, there are depressing facts and figures, but the overwhelming attention is focused on solutions. *Big Ideas* is not afraid to think big, and that's part of its charm. What's not so charming is its narrow focus. While there's a lot of talk about eating and growing food locally, for example — thereby cutting down on interstate shipping, which lowers the need for diesel fuel, which in turn, makes the air cleaner — no one talks about what it would mean to those potentially displaced truck drivers. And what of those (presumably Mexican) field laborers, shown in the segment on biodynamic wines in the episode titled "Food"? While the focus is trained on the vintner who is growing grapes biodynamically ("the Rolls Royce of organic farming"), watching those dark-brown faces sprint (yes, sprint) with bins of freshly picked grapes carried over their heads made me wince. There is a small, early-morning window, we're told, when the flavor

of the grapes is at its peak. That's the explanation for the sprinting. And what does the worker get for this highly labor-intensive work? Given that immigrant labor is a huge lightning rod, I was disappointed that this issue was not woven into the fabric of the segment. In fact, the working class rarely appears in the series, except as the thankful benefactors of some forward-thinking green advocate. If the benefactors are overseas, the coolness is amplified. In this part of the world, the working class or poor are barely a footnote. A disappointing missing link in the chain, it seems.

Big Ideas for a Small Planet premiered earlier in the month and continues Tuesdays at 8pm on the Sundance Channel. Themes of the upcoming episodes include:

"Gen Y": The children of the baby boomers are eco-sensitive, but they are also avid consumers. This episode looks at several Gen Yers and speculates on how their decisions may shape the future. **Airs April 22.**

"Food": A look at the different ways several companies are creating environmentally friendly food and wine. **Airs April 29.**

"Fashion": Not only are green ideals coming to the fashion world, but several green thinkers are changing the way clothes are sold and cared for. **Airs May 6.**

The *Big Ideas* series continues through June, covering the following topics: "Recycle," "Grow," "Transport," "Live," "Business," "Gadgets," and "Animals." For a complete description of the episodes, go to www.sundancechannel.com.


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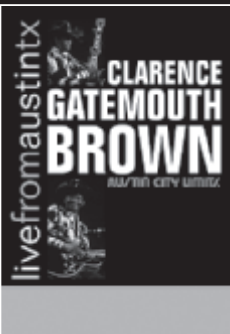
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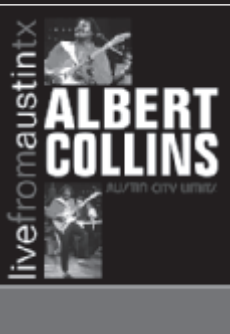
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70 OLD SETTLER'S MUSIC FEST PREVIEW
74 BETTYE LAVETTE
76 TEXAS PLATTERS
107 MUSIC LISTINGS

OFF THE RECORD music news BY AUSTIN POWELL

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL, PART 2

If there's one thing the newly created **Live Music Task Force** agrees on, it's that the solution to the city's conflicted interests in urban development and live music isn't as simple as lowering the decibel level of the current Austin noise ordinance. Instead, the 15-member task force, which was created with a resolution passed on Jan. 31 and includes members of the **Austin Music Commission** and **Austin Planning Commission**, is dividing its interest into four main areas, including the creation and maintenance of entertainment districts. Venue owners – task force Chairman **Paul Oveis** (**Momo's**), **Charles Attal** (**Stubb's**), **James Moody** (**Mohawk**), and **Steve Wertheimer** (**Continental Club**) – are addressing issues like building

requirements, redevelopment goals, and possible financial incentives. The **Sound Enforcement Subcommittee** is particularly interested in what local lobbyist and musician **Brandon Aghamalian** deems the “thump thump” issue, the unique nature of bass noise and the way in which it can skew sound readings. “There are so many different aspects to this undertaking, so much more than dollars and cents,” says **Rich Bailey** of the mayor's office. “It's the heart and soul of Austin.” The task force meets on the second Monday of every month from 6 to 8pm, in the **Boards and Commissions** room at **City Hall**, and will present its assessment and recommendations to the city manager and **City Council** on or before Oct. 31.

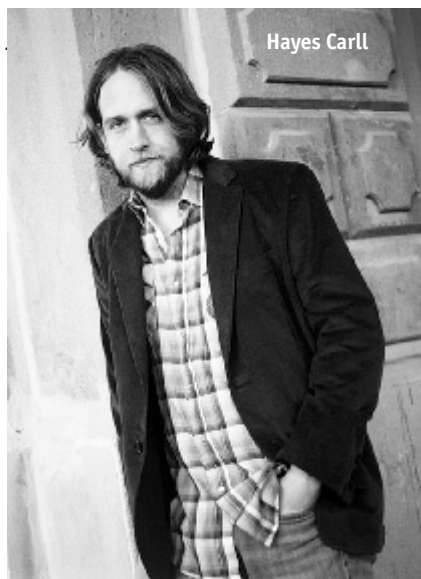


BORN TO RUN

“Drivin’ alone through the Texas night,” **Bruce Springsteen** checked the pulse of Houston's **Toyota Center** on Monday night with opener “Cadillac Ranch” and issued an immediate distress signal with “Radio Nowhere.” Sifting through “eight years of bad *Magic*,” the Boss and his **E Street Band** breathed life and hope into the American dream through classic cuts like the “The E Street Shuffle” and “Tenth Avenue Freeze-Out.” Two hours later, the Jersey boys turned the wheels back home, introducing **Alejandro Escovedo** (who now shares the management team of **Jon Landau** and **Barbara Carr**) for “Always a Friend,” the lead number from Escovedo's upcoming *Real Animal*, which Springsteen plugged twice. And keeping with a Lone Star tradition, **Joe Ely** took center stage for what could have been the theme song for the evening, “All Just to Get to You.”

ON THE BEACH

“No man is an island, but every man has a peninsula,” says Austin transplant **Hayes Carll**, recalling a phrase he picked up during his tenure in Crystal Beach, Texas. Essentially taking the opposite career path as **Jerry Jeff Walker** (see “Viva Belize!” Sept. 7, 2007), Carll honed his craft in the coastal city, singing for his supper and observing the locals. His memories from that time clearly resonate in his new comic book, *Hayes Carll in the Search for Ooga Kabooga Juice and Other Adventures*, not to mention his poignant third album and **Lost Highway** debut, *Trouble in Mind*, which was released last week on vinyl with bonus tracks, rich with seedy characters and natural prose. “There's not a lot to do there but hang out at the bar and hope you don't get shot,” Carll confides. “Let's just say you meet some characters.” This weekend the singer-songwriter returns to Crystal Beach to host the second annual **Stingaree Music Festival**, headlined by **Terry Allen** and featuring like-minded locals **Ray Wylie Hubbard** (who co-wrote “Drunken Poet's Dream”), **Band of Heathens**, **Will Kimbrough**, **Eliza Gilkyson**, **Gurf Morlix**, and the **Dedringers**. www.stingareemusicfestival.com.



MUSIC FOR THE MASSES

In case you need a little extra motivation to support independent music retailers, this Saturday is **Record Store Day**. Twelve of Austin's finest, from **Waterloo Records** to **Sound on Sound**, are binding together for a good old-fashioned record-store crawl, wherein receipts from one participating store dated April 19 will result in discounts at the remaining outlets. See the ad on p.75 for more details and Music Listings, p.107, for the complete list of in-store appearances. To mark the occasion, artists ranging from **Stephen Malkmus** and **R.E.M.** to ACL 2008 performers the **Black Keys** and **Vampire Weekend** are releasing limited-edition 7-inches, while **Antone's Record Shop** is hosting a sidewalk sale. **Friends of Sound Records'** backroom bargain bins will be 50% off, and everything at **Whetstone Audio**, including turntables, speakers, and amps, will be 10% off. This might be a good time to mark your calendars for the **2008 Rhythmhound Music & Media Show**, May 17-18 at the **Palmer Events Center**. Dealer tables are still available, but there is a catch: no bootlegs. www.rhythmhound.com.

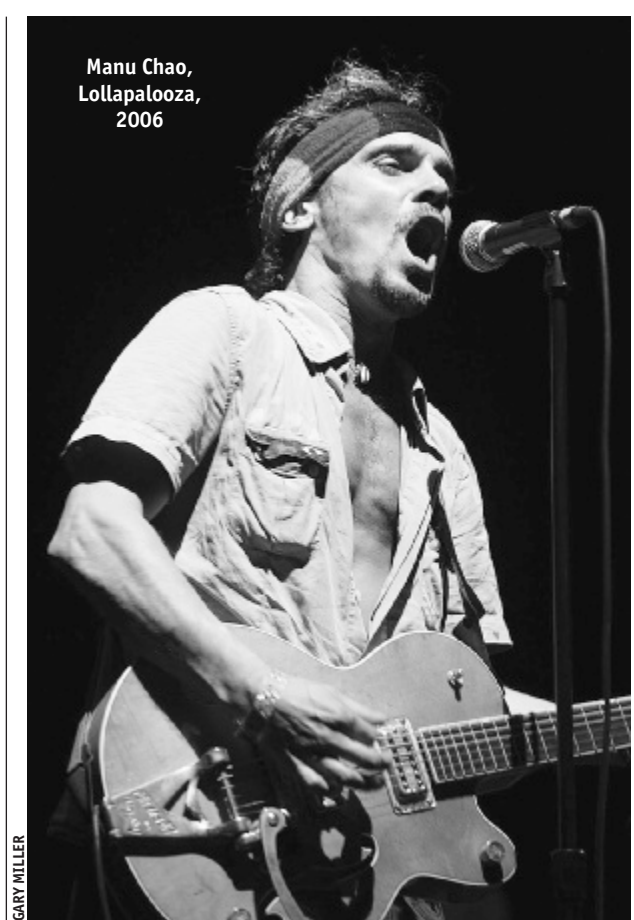
RANDOM PLAY

● In the April 17 issue of **Rolling Stone**, **David Fricke** recounts his attendance of a surprise 60th birthday party for **Eric Clapton** cohort and Austin resident **Bobby Whitlock** (see “Keep on Growing,” Dec. 1, 2006) on the final night of **South by Southwest 08**. Elsewhere in print, **Spin** magazine becomes the last publication in North America to note the buzz surrounding **White Denim**. **Aubrey Edwards** should be credited with the photo.

● **Texas Showdown Saloon**, the Drag's other hole in the wall and former site of punk haven **Raul's**, is shutting down after 27 years. Stop in for a pint while you still can.

● The hill in Town Lake Park with the spiral walkway, between **Stevie Ray Vaughan's** statue and Riverside, was officially renamed **Doug Sahm Hill** last week by Austin City Council in honor of the original cosmic cowboy.

● The **Sword** shall return to the Land of Ice and Snow (see Music, March 28), joining **Metallica** for a seven-date tour in July that begins with an appearance at the **Bergen Festival** in Norway. *Gods of the Earth*, the local quartet's celestial second LP, debuted at No. 1 on **Billboard's** Heatseeker and New Artist charts.



GARY MILLER

THE COLOUR AND THE SHAPE

With **Jakob Dylan & the Gold Mountain Rebels** following in the footsteps of last year's headliner, **Bob Dylan**, the rest of the **2008 Austin City Limits Music Festival**, Sept. 26-28 in **Zilker Park**, is following suit. While there is still a number of high-profile veteran artists (**Robert Plant & Alison Krauss**, **Manu Chao**, **John Fogerty**, **David Byrne**), the lineup, announced on Tuesday, is stacked with alternative staples for a younger generation (the headlining **Foo Fighters**, **Beck**, the **Mars Volta**, **Iron & Wine**, **Gnarls Barkley**), right down to its local delegates (**White Denim**, the **Strange Boys**, **Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears**). OTR is personally stoked to see **Conor Oberst**, **M. Ward**, and **Gillian Welch** on the same bill, along with **Spiritualized**, **Band of Horses**, and **Antibalas**. Find the whole lineup at austinchronicle.com/earache. Meanwhile, KLRU's **Austin City Limits** continues its 34th season on Sunday with a double taping of **Pinetop Perkins** and **Bettye LaVette**. (For an interview with LaVette, see “Sad Songs Say So Much,” p.74.) **Thievery Corporation** and **My Morning Jacket** are also confirmed for sessions in July and August, respectively. For more information, try the ticket hotline at 475-9077.

OLD SETTLER’S MUSIC FESTIVAL PREVIEW

For 21 years now, the Old Settler’s Music Festival has marked the arrival of spring to Central Texas as surely as bluebonnets alongside Lady Bird Lake. While other local music festivals continue pushing toward critical mass, Old Settler’s has retained its casual, family-oriented appeal while drawing renowned Americana artists from jam bands to traditional bluegrass, folk and blues to jazz and country.

This year’s lineup proves equally eclectic across the four stages and a four-day weekend. Bluegrass and country Superlative

FRIDAY

THE BELLEVILLE OUTFIT

4pm, Hill Country Stage Austin’s Belleville Outfit blends jazz, swing, and newgrass into a tantalizing whole. Their self-released debut, *Wanderin’*, features wonderful ensemble play, the precocious songwriting skills of singer/guitarist Rob Teter, and the dazzling talents of fiddler and vocalist Phoebe Hunt.

– Jim Caligiuri

JITTERBUG VIPERS

4:15pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage Led by the sultry vocals and swinging piano of Emily Gimble, granddaughter of legendary honky-tonk fiddler Johnny Gimble, Jitterbug Vipers celebrate the 1930s jazz springing from the marijuana-inspired culture of Cab Calloway and Fats Waller. Also featuring prolific guitarist Slim Richey, they dropped their eponymous debut last spring.

– D.F.

GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS

5pm, Hill Country Stage Blending gypsy fiddle with acoustic folk and fevered mandolin and banjo breakdowns, these Champaign-Urbana, Ill., transplants have become local regulars on the national jam-band festival circuit, known for the improvised turns of their live shows, an ethos captured on their freshly released fourth album, *As the Crow Flies* (Zone).

– D.F.

DAVID GRISMAN BLUEGRASS EXPERIENCE

7:15pm, Hill Country Stage For more than 40 years, mandolin player and composer David Grisman has been creating “dawg” music, a blend of acoustic swing, bluegrass, Latin, jazz, and gypsy that deserves its own category. His Bluegrass Experience, a quintet featuring his son Samson on stand-up bass, is bluegrass as Bill Monroe intended it.

– J.C.

MARTIN SEXTON

9pm, Hill Country Stage Boston singer-songwriter scene export Martin Sexton possesses an amazingly adaptive voice and the knack for writing tunes filled with honesty and heart. His seventh album, the adventurously diverse *Seeds* (Kitchen Table), was named 2007’s Album of the Year at the Boston Music Awards.

– J.C.

Marty Stuart stings up with old-time pioneer Ralph Stanley, blues legends Delbert McClinton and Charlie Musselwhite meet the soul of Bettye LaVette, and young prodigies like Sarah Jarosz and Emily Elbert return along with newgrass pioneers Peter Rowan and David Grisman. Add the performance workshops, campfire sing-alongs, and overflowing mounds of barbecue, and Camp Ben McCulloch couldn’t feel farther from the city.

– Doug Freeman

Fest Facts

The OSMF is held at the Salt Lick Pavilion and Camp Ben McCulloch in Driftwood, 11 miles south of Highway 290 West on Farm Road 1826. www.oldsettlersmusicfest.org.

TICKETS

Platinum Pass: \$450, four-day (Thursday-Sunday); wristband with camping: \$135, three-day; wristband without camping: \$100; Thursday Settle-in Stamp (show plus camping): \$35; Friday wristband (no campground access): \$47; Saturday wristband (no campground access): \$47; Sunday wristband: \$15; children 12 and under free with paying adult.

DELBERT MCCLINTON

10:45pm, Hill Country Stage Some performers are like fine wines; they improve with age. Consider Delbert McClinton, soul singer of the first order and badass harmonica player to boot. Forget the hoary references to “Hey Baby” and teaching John Lennon harp licks; Delbert’s a Texas original whose vintage imprint is a blues brand.

– Margaret Moser

SATURDAY

J.D. CROWE & THE NEW SOUTH

12:15pm, Hill Country Stage/ 7:30pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage Banjo picker J.D. Crowe is one of the most influential musicians in bluegrass. Although it’s gone through many permutations since the 1970s, his band, the New South, remains one of music’s best and most progressive ensembles.

– J.C.

EMILY ELBERT

1:15pm, Hill Country Stage Currently on scholarship to the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Coppell, Texas, native Emily Elbert sings much older than her 19 years suggest. On her co-produced debut, 2006’s *Bright Side*, Elbert drips a soulful folk over her light, jazzy guitar, her songs jumping with a delicate pop sensibility and fluttering vocal range.

– D.F.

THE JONES FAMILY SINGERS

2:15pm, Hill Country Stage The Jones Family Singers bring not only the gospel into their soul shouting. Their rock-steady power knocks on heaven’s door. The Baytown-based choir and band is indeed

CAMPING

Permits are required to enter the campground. (See website for complete information and restrictions.) Electrical and water hookups are available but no sewer hookups or dump stations for RVs. No generators allowed; a camping electrical permit can be purchased for \$25. Hot showers available on-site for \$5. Shuttles are provided from the campground to the Salt Lick Pavilion and run 30 minutes before showtimes and end 30 minutes after the final show. *Do not* attempt to walk the creek or cross the highway bridge on foot, day or night. No pets allowed. Coolers and outside food and drink allowed in campground only. No drums after midnight.

all family and filled with sibling harmonies of the highest order.

– M.M.

SARAH JAROSZ

2:45pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage Even before she snagged the Best Teen Act at the Austin Music Awards in 2007, multi-instrumentalist and singer-songwriter Jarosz wielded a double whammy of teenage muscle and a promise, especially when she whips out her clawhammer banjo. If there were a Most Likely to Succeed category, she’d win it.

– M.M.

THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS

3:30pm, Hill Country Stage/Sunday, 3:30pm, Campground Stage With last year’s debut, *Fork in the Road* (Sugar Hill), Nashville’s Infamous Stringdusters turned a hat trick at the International Bluegrass Music Association awards: Emerging Artist of the Year, Song of the Year, and Album of the Year. Tim O’Brien produced their sophomore effort due in June.

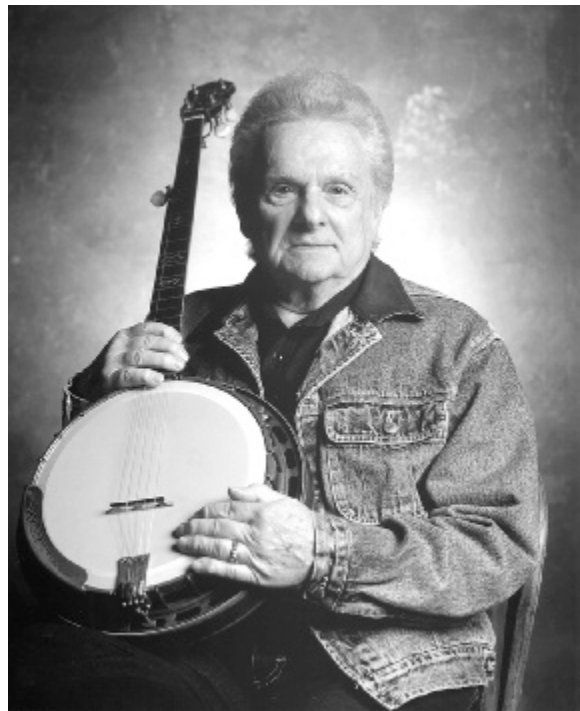
– D.F.

PETER ROWAN & FRIENDS

3:45 & 9:45pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage A longtime Old Settler’s fave, Peter Rowan returns for two sets of tunes that will likely veer from reggae to hardcore bluegrass. A part-time resident of Central Texas, Rowan remains best loved by the hippie in us all for composing tunes like “Panama Red” and occasionally congregating the “Free Mexican Airforce.”

– J.C.

continued on p.72



Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys

Saturday, 5pm, Hill Country Stage

When Ralph Stanley and his older brother, Carter, formed the Clinch Mountain Boys upon returning from World War II, Bill Monroe was defining a genre named for his band the Blue Grass Boys. The Stanley Brothers counterpointed Monroe’s more polished, breakdown style with the stark ruggedness of their Appalachian roots, the sibling’s harmonies setting a standard for groups that followed. Ralph’s distinct clawhammer form of banjo-picking reinvented the instrument.

“I was proud, and Carter was proud that we could be together makin’ a livin’,” says Ralph Stanley from the family homestead in Virginia’s Cumberland Mountains, just down the road apiece from the recently opened Ralph Stanley Museum and Traditional Mountain Music Center. “We didn’t have any breaks much. We worked hard and got it the hard way.”

The Stanley Brothers wrote and/or recorded seminal versions of bluegrass’ greatest songs, including the recently rejuvenated “I’m a Man of Constant Sorrow.” In 1966, Carter succumbed to illness at the age of 41, thrusting Ralph and his haunting tenor to the helm of the CMBs.

“I didn’t know if I should go on by myself or not – there was a question there,” relates Stanley. “Of course, I got I don’t know how many cards and letters and phone calls telling me to go on with the music and that they needed me and had always been Stanley Brothers fans, but they’d be more so for me now because they figured I’d need it. That encouraged me.”

Now 81, the Virginian, whose honorary doctorate in music affords him the title of Dr. Stanley, remains not only one of bluegrass’ progenitors but one of its leading performers, as well. 2000 Coen brothers film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* famously brought Dr. Stanley’s music back to national attention, a vindication of his adherence to traditional mountain music even as styles and string genres shifted throughout his career.

“I am what I am and what I’ve always been, and I believe that’s why I’m still popular at my age,” he affirms. “When you hear my voice or banjo-pickin’ over a radio station, you don’t have to guess who it is. You know who it is. A lot of the people that went and tried to go new with it, you can’t hardly tell them apart unless you’re watching them. That’s fine though, but I just want to stick to my roots.”

– Doug Freeman

THE WAYBACKS

Loaded (Compass)

San Francisco's Waybacks have undergone some changes in the past few years, the biggest being the addition of Austin's Warren Hood. A world-class fiddler, Hood's influence is all over *Loaded*, the quartet's fourth effort, acting as occasional lead singer and composing half of the disc's 12 tracks. Even then, the Waybacks' signature eclecticism remains intact as they travel a vast range of Americana, not only the bluegrass they've been unfairly pigeonholed with but also gypsy jazz, country, and Celtic rock. Founding singer-songwriter/guitarist James Nash remains a vocalist just a smidgen shy of the necessary emotion yet redeems himself on the dark title track. Hood's sultry tribute to Walter Hyatt, "Savannah," and his expansive instrumental "Black Cat" showcase the band's hard-earned musicianship. As a whole, however, *Loaded*, finds the Waybacks a little too lightweight and derivative of similar acts without bringing anything new or distinctive to what they do. **(Thursday, 9:15pm, Campground Stage; Friday, 6:45pm, iZon! Stage.)**

★★★ — Jim Caligiuri

BEARFOOT

Follow Me (Glacier)

With the twin fiddles of Annalisa Tornfelt and Angela Oudean reeling against each other and lead vocal duties passed between each member, Anchorage, Alaska, quintet Bearfoot threatens to implode under the weight of the bandmates' individual talents. While the group's third album manages to wrangle its collective impulse effectively, the diversity of the material sets up a tenuous balance wherein the tunes never unfold as fully as they intend to. Tornfelt's quietly plodding "Sweet Pea" and the aching strain of "Just Stay" bookend Mike Mickelson's mellow lead on Doc Watson's "Deep River Blues," while mandolinist Jason Norris' rough vocals struggle with his "Easier Days." The group cuts convincingly traditional on opening harmonizer "Molasses" and instrumental "Village Idiot," and Tornfelt smolders "The Most Lonely" with a Gillian Welch subtlety, forgiving her grating wail on "Go on Home." Though not quite finding a cohesive footing, Bearfoot stands well among the new crop of young pickers. **(Saturday, 11am, Hill Country Stage; Sunday, 12:30pm, Campground Stage.)**

★★★ — Doug Freeman

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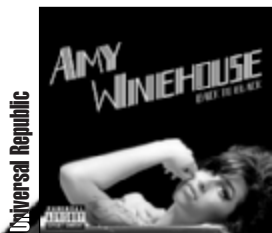
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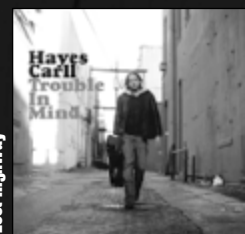
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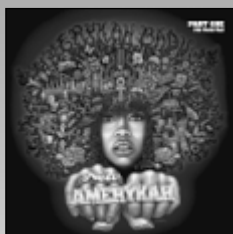
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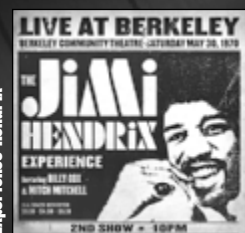
Lost Highway

HAYES CARLL
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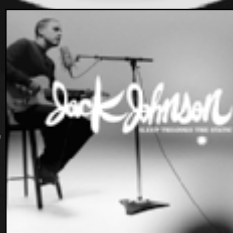
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Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives

Saturday, 8:30pm, Hill Country Stage

When we last saw him, Marty Stuart had just released three albums in rapid succession. Since then, nothing. That doesn't mean one of Nashville's top stars has been napping. Rather,

the Mississippi native produced discs for Porter Wagoner and Kathy Mattea, organized his huge collection of country music memorabilia as a traveling road show titled Sparkle & Twang:

PIETA BROWN

5pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage She may be the daughter of Grammy-nominated folksinger Greg Brown, but Pieta Brown has blazed her own path with a sound that calls on a mélange of styles including country and blues. On her third disc, 2007's *Remember the Sun* (One Little Indian), her introspective mood manages to assert sharply drawn political views with a heightened sense of nostalgia.

— J.C.

BLACKIE & THE RODEO KINGS

6:15pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage/Sunday, 2pm, Campground Stage Since joining forces in 1996 for a tribute to acclaimed Canadian songwriter Willie P. Bennett, the trio of Stephen Fearing, Colin Linden, and Tom Wilson has routinely regrouped in pursuit of rocking country anthems and scratchy, honest folk. With Bennett's passing in February, expect a moving homage from his acolytes.

— D.F.

Marty Stuart's American Musical Odyssey, put the finishing touches on a new book of his photography, and produced a weekly radio show for XM satellite radio.

"The closest thing to a job I've ever had in my life was agreeing to host a radio show for XM," he laughs by phone from Nashville. "The beauty of it is that we've had the opportunity to try out songs, try out sounds, try out musicians. It's been a great sketch pad in lots of ways for the things to come recordingwise. It's bookended by live performances, and the Superlatives have their own segments inside the hour.

"It's completely off the charts. It's a lot of work."

Stuart's memorabilia collection is truly awe-inspiring, counting items like a Johnny Cash Man in Black suit and Hank Williams Sr.'s handwritten lyrics to "Your Cheatin' Heart."

"It really started in the early 1980s when I went to London to the first Hard Rock Cafe," he explains. "I saw all this stuff on the walls of these English rock bands. I said to myself, 'That's really cool to see the Beatles and

the Stones and the Who up there, but so is Porter Wagoner's boots or Johnny Cash's coat or Hank Williams' lyrics.' I was starting to see those things surface in thrift shops and yard sales and pawnshops around Nashville. Nashville was dismissing that as culture. The urban cowboy thing was happening, so Nudie suits were no longer cool. Nobody cared about cowboy boots from the 1950s. It just looked like American culture being thrown away to me. That's what I went for."

As a teenager, Stuart performed with Lester Flatt and Cash. Now he's approaching 50.

"Gray hair don't bother me," he claims. "Numbers don't bother me. I look at people getting face-lifts and Botox and all that shit, and then I look at Willie and go, 'You win, Willie.' Spiritually, emotionally, and musically, I feel like I'm on the money. My focus is good, and I'm in a good place right now. Some ways I think I've exceeded where I ever thought I'd be. Some thing's I haven't accomplished yet, so there's always plenty to work on."

— Jim Caligiuri

NEW MONSOON

Saturday, 10:30pm, Hill Country Stage

SF's New Monsoon keeps on being asked to return to the OSMF for its genre-busting ways. Both acoustic and electric instruments power sophisticated songcraft and inventive musical exploration. The quintet's 2007 disc, *V*, was produced by John Cutler, best known for his work with the like-minded Grateful Dead.

— J.C.

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Saturday, 10:45pm, iZon! Bluebonnet Stage

East Nashville's Todd Snider celebrates his Texas roots with a rare electric performance that's sure to be dynamic and energizing. Joining Snider will be his Texas band, which comprises Sterling Finlay on bass, Austin all-star guitarist Scrappy Jud Newcomb, and drummer Kory Cook (Sons of Hercules).

— J.C.

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Saturday, 6:45pm, Hill Country Stage

"In the past, I've always steered away from doing anything political, because I just felt that people didn't go out at night to be preached to; they want to have a good time," offered Musselwhite before his ACL appearance. "But it's been a tradition within blues to talk about political things and whatever problems people are dealing with. I just felt like things had gotten so bad that it was time to say something."

“As I discovered music from around the world, it had this feeling to it that sounded somehow connected or had the same kind of energy that blues had in it,” he says. “I knew that it was real. And I still look for that wherever I travel. The purists get upset that I might be hurting the blues, but you can’t hurt the blues. It’s tough, it’s always been here, always will be, and nobody can kill it.” — *Doug Freeman*



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Sad Songs Say So Much

You can't disappoint Bettye LaVette any longer

BY THOMAS FAWCETT

Muscle Shoals, Ala., is a soul-music mecca. Some of the best work of Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, Etta James, and the Staple Singers was recorded in the Muscle Shoals Sound Studios. In 1972, it was Bettye LaVette's turn.

Signed to Atlantic Records, the Detroit native made her pilgrimage there to cut what was to be her breakthrough LP, *Child of the Seventies*. On the eve of a promotional tour to support it, LaVette got a call from the label: Send back the plane tickets. The tour was canceled, the album indefinitely shelved. With the exception of two singles, the album wouldn't be heard until the small French indie label Art & Soul released the songs as *Souvenirs* in 2000.

LaVette, 62, possesses a defiant laugh, yet it's clear she's never fully recovered from the incident. Under the heading of better late than never, this soul survivor finally garnered long-overdue accolades with two discs on Anti-, 2005's *I've Got My Own Hell to Raise* and last year's *The Scene of the Crime*. The albums drip with emotional versions of songs by writers like Dolly Parton, Sinéad O'Connor, and Lucinda Williams. On her devastating, snail-paced take of Willie Nelson's "Somebody Pick Up My Pieces" from *The Scene of the Crime*, LaVette warns, "Don't you follow my footsteps, step right over my trail/Cause the road is too darn narrow and your footin' could fail/And the fall to the bottom, it could tear you apart/You'll be right back here pickin' up pieces of you and your heart."

Austin Chronicle: *Yours is a story of remarkable resilience. Have you come to terms with some of the disappointments early in your career?*

Bettye LaVette: No, because now I'm old, and I don't have any money. I have to work to make money, while all of my contemporaries made their money early on, and now they can appear as they wish. It's not a constant thing on my mind. I wouldn't be able to hold on and look well if I was angry all of the time.

AC: *On your most recent album, you address some of those trials directly on "Before the Money Came (The Battle of Bettye LaVette)." It has a real triumphant tone and is one of my favorite songs on the album.*

BL: Thank you. You have no idea how continuously surprised I am about that song, because I don't write, and I didn't have any expectations for it. It was fun to write, but I didn't think people would pay attention to it like they have. I've gotten some wonderful compliments about it.

AC: *You've recently recorded songs by Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, and Lucinda Williams. The Drive-by Truckers are on your latest album. Was that a conscious effort on your part?*

BL: No, I just choose the songs that I like, and those happen to be the songs that I like. If you look back throughout my entire career, I've always recorded country songs. So few people have seen my show that everything I do is a surprise to them, but if people had been coming to my shows and buying my records all along, they would see that there have always been country songs there. I recorded songs by Neil Young and Charlie Rich. It's just that I was paid so little attention to that people find me surprising.

AC: *That reminds me of Solomon Burke, who recorded a lot of country songs back in the day and recently did the Nashville album, but I don't correlate country music with your hometown of Detroit.*

BL: No, but my show has always been different than all of my friends, and it probably matched Solomon's more than anything. I was on the road with him for a brief while, and he and I seemed to like the same songs. My mother used to listen to country music. Her favorite

singer was probably Red Foley. I've heard country music all of my life, and that was one of the groups of songs that I had favorites in.

AC: *The first time I heard your music was on a 2001 compilation that had "Let Me Down Easy" on it. I was immediately struck by how incredibly sad that song is.*

BL: It is. I like sad songs. In fact, because I do so many songs in B-flat minor, my husband got me this beautiful thing to wear around my neck that is a B-flat minor. That's just the saddest key in the world. Although I don't know if it's any sadder than "Your Turn to Cry." The first line is, "I gave you all my love, but you treated me like a fool." It's pretty sad, too. It's so hard for me to not have my whole show be sad. I have to keep trying to inject uptempo tunes. I told my husband I wasn't going to record any more sad songs, because after a while, people are going to be hiring me for funerals.

AC: *What is it about sad songs that you're drawn to?*

BL: It was easier to be drawn to them because I was being completely ignored, so I was sad. People ask me is it difficult for me to conjure up the emotion for each show, and it's not, because the songs are sad. They were just as sad last night as they were tonight. There would be no way for me to sing "Let Me Down Easy" uptempo or happy.

AC: *There's a very real pain in your voice. Where does that come from?*

BL: It comes from neglect, baby. How would you feel if you had been ignored for 40 years? It ain't hard to do. I've been said "no" to by everybody, and that puts a permanent sadness in your voice and in your heart.

AC: *What do you make of all the attention and accolades you've gotten since 2005?*

BL: I think it's about time, and if I had been promoted as I'm being promoted now, I think people would have liked me before. All my interviews start with an apology because they've never heard of me before, or they say, "I can't believe I've never heard of you before." So I'm glad that I'm having this opportunity before I have to do it from my wheelchair.

"I told my husband I wasn't going to record any more sad songs, because after a while, people are going to be hiring me for funerals."

AC: *What was it like to go back to Muscle Shoals for this last album?*

BL: It wasn't that nostalgic for me because I was only there briefly. The biggest part of that happened at Atlantic's offices in New York. It was all my contemporaries who have a history of repeatedly going down there and being successful. I was only down there for four days out of my dismal career, so it wasn't nostalgic for me at all. Probably the greatest highlight is that I was the only one still able to fit into a size 6.

AC: *Listening to the music from that 1972 Atlantic album, I can't think of a reason that, if it had been properly promoted, you wouldn't be on the same level of some of the bigger names in R&B.*

BL: I think people are listening different now. I've always sounded more like Louis Armstrong than Dionne Warwick, and the companies didn't really know exactly what to do with somebody that young that sounded that old. Now we've got a better handle on it because people are allowing me to do all that I know instead of just what they want me to do. Most people called because of "Let Me Down Easy," and we'd go into the studio

with that idea, which was very limiting. If I told somebody I wanted to record a Sinéad O'Connor song, they wouldn't have been able to imagine it. When I chose the songs for *I've Got My Own Hell to Raise*, the president of Anti- said, "These don't go together." I said, "They will when I sing them." I'm the combining force. Now that we've done *Hell to Raise*, when I say I want to do some song that Tex Ritter did, Andrew [Kaulkin, president of Anti-] trusts me.

AC: *After all your disappointments and bad experiences with labels, were you skeptical when he approached you to do an album?*

BL: No, not the kind of skepticism you may think of. I'm always hopeful when I go into the studio, but I had by that point stopped believing. There is nothing they could have done to disappoint me. That can't be done anymore. The great feeling is when they promoted it. I know how I sound and how the music sounds. I knew that if they let somebody else hear it, that somebody would like it. I know what it takes to sell a record – people have to hear it!

Bettye LaVette helps headline the Old Settler's Music Festival, performing Friday, April 18, 8:30-9:45pm at the iZon! Bluebonnet Stage. www.oldssettlersmusicfest.org



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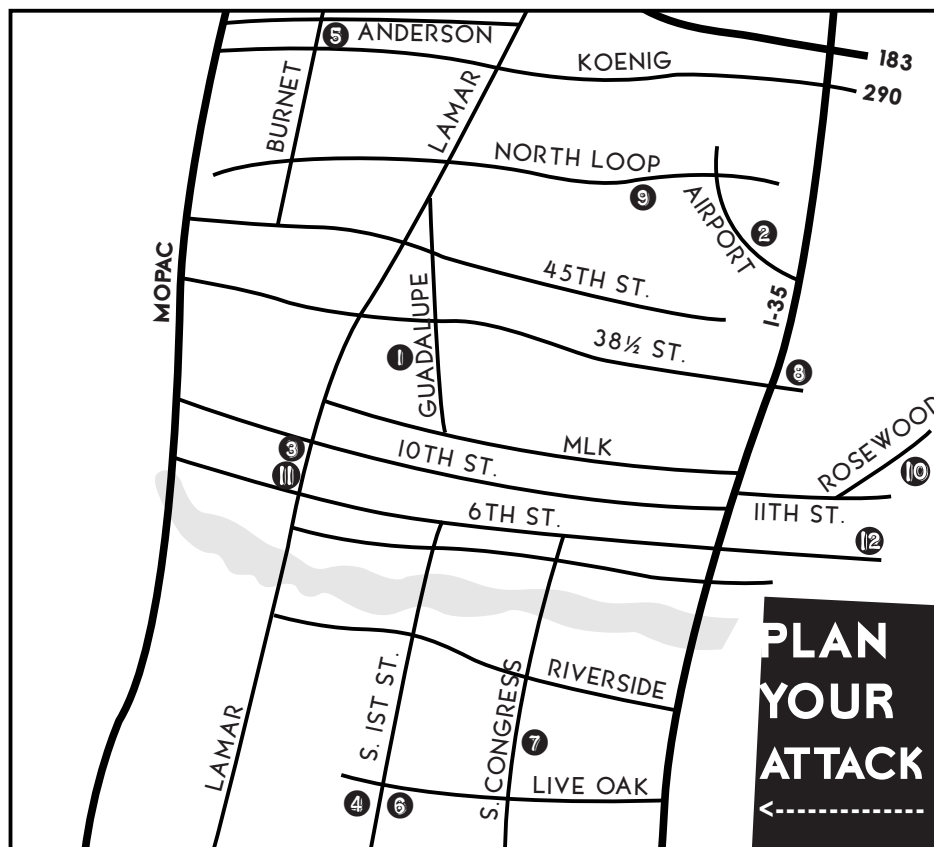
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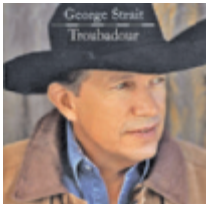
VALLEJO
Thicker Than Water (VMG/Quadra)

Not even Guitarlos himself cooks up platters this Santana anymore. Produced by Austin's Vallejo Bros. – A.J., Omar, and Alejandro, whose triple-threat writing credit is stamped on 12 of the album's 13 tracks (one being a Carlos Santana/Gregg Rolie original) – *Thicker Than Water* boils down to Vallejo's crowning achievement thus far. "Here we go now, hold on," announces A.J. straightaway as the opening title cut tees off a seamless whole of 1970s rock Latinate. Muscled elan ("Live"), strutting anti-war vulnerability ("What Will It Take?"), the simple unburdening of "Let It Go": *Thicker Than Water* hemorrhages hooks and a tan. Standing in for Santana's "Smooth" and missing only Rob Thomas, walking on *Water's* "Sweet Maria" lacks only the super-natural riff of its late-album mate "Without You" to stroke out Clive Davis. As with the rest of the disc, A.J., who plays nearly "all guitars" on the album, paints "Maria" with a fire-engine lead, then leaves lengthy soloing and jams at home, though the steel-plated cover of the master's "Hope You're Feeling Better" smelts a guitar fortress. Better still, A.J.'s gaucho vocals, smoothly Spanish on closer "Tu Corazon Es Para Mi," a collaboration with Zayra Alvarez and Del Castillo, seals this family affair, engineered by Omar with art direction by Alejandro. Percussive cantina hooks ("Salvation") kick tropically immaculate, while instrumental "Sonata del Toro," grooved by the Grooveline Horns and more Del Castillo, sparks another fiery fiesta. Deep-disc lope "Temporary Thing" comes down from this ATX troupe's onslaught. *Thicker Than Water* and bloody well righteous.

★★★★ – Raoul Hernandez

GEORGE STRAIT
Troubadour (MCA)

Already holding the most chart-topping country albums and singles, King George furthers his reign on *Troubadour*, the Central Texan's distinctive drawl and twanging tenor remaining one of mainstream radio's consistent high points. Strait's 37th album sways comfortably familiar, the waltzing "It Was Me" playing almost as a postscript to his classic "The Chair," while his duet with songwriter Dean Dillon on "West Texas Town" swings as freely as Asleep at the Wheel. "River of Love" stretches a touch of Southern soul, and "Brothers of the Highway" rolls road anthemic, though "I Saw God Today" delivers a more innocuous fare. Bruising "House of Cash," featuring Patty Loveless, broods low and dark, and "House With No



★★★★★ Perfect ★★★★★ Great ★★★★★ Good ★★ Mediocre ★ Coaster

deEP end

It's boys' town Austin here in the deEP end. We tipped you to **Murdocks** last fall ("Caught 'Em in Autumn," Nov. 9, 2007), and with a refitted lineup, the local trio's latest EP *Roar!* (Surprise Truck), is an impressive response of raw riffage. Opener "Playhouse Down" rides anthemic la-la-las and hooky guitar, and it must be said that Murdocks write extremely catchy pop. The six tracks linger around three minutes each and are all riled up, save for sweet closer "Boy," which stretches out under guitarist Franklin Morris' gravel-howl pleas. **Loxsly's** *Flashlights* EP floats higher and lighter, abetted by pedal steel on opener "Lamprey Eels" and piano on "Chopper," showing the quintet's maturity since 2006's *Maps and Organs* LP. In a similar vein, trio **Housewife** returns from 2005's full-length, *The Delicate Prey*, with the six-song *Triangulation* (Domestic Junkie), making a beautiful racket on "Truth in New Wave" that sounds like Sonic Youth twitching in a heat wave. "There is truth in new wave; I can promise you this," assures guitarist John Rose, later spewing catharsis on the jagged "Sex and Violence." Local chameleons **Cry Blood Apache's** four-song *Northern Travelers* (Ghetto Pagoda) finally cements the ATX trio's darkwave into something – gasp! – accessible, starting off in pure Cure fashion on "The Northern Travelers" as guitarist Hans Hinrich harnesses the sonic spray of his live playing into a moody, propulsive jangle that beats a gauzy heart on "I Fly Towards You." Drum-machine-stimulated closer "Boy's Night Out" is the gem here, bending under Kaspar Glass' slurred vocals.

– Audra Schroeder



Doors" aches blue-collar heartache. "I was a young troubadour, when I rode in on a song, and I'll be an old troubadour, when I'm gone," declares the title track, and George Strait stays true to his word.

★★★ – Doug Freeman

THE BAND OF
HEATHENS
(BOH)

Stones fans who loved the Band but prefer the Gourds to the Black Crowes will be very happy with *The Band of Heathens*. That's a compliment to the upstart Momo's scene, where the exuberant BoH launched as a side project from Messrs. Ed Jurdi, Gordy Quist, Colin Brooks, Seth Whitney, and John Chipman. Their free-form, rootsy grab of country and folk-rock went them last year's Best New Band at the Austin Music Awards, literally forcing them to admit the sum was greater than the whole of its parts. Swell songs abound on the Ray Wylie Hubbard-produced LP, with Brooks' clever "Heart on My Sleeve" and Quist's "Unsleeping Eye" paying heartfelt tribute to Little Feat's "Feats Don't Fail Me Now" and Jurdi's Gourds-y "Don't Call on Me." What BoH does best is take the old, polish it like new, and make it appeal to everyone. Good trick, boys.

★★★ – Margaret Moser



THANK YOU
FRIENDS: AN
ALMOST THERE
RECORDS SALUTE
TO BIG STAR
(Almost There)

Given our town's penchant for loud guitars jangling toward beer-light transcendence, it's a wonder no one thought to do a Big Star tribute until 2008. *Thank You Friends* remedies this with 13 solid to stellar paeans to the Memphis-



bred power-pop pioneers. The Service Industry's "You Can't Have Me" emphasizes the song's quintessential pop bones by stripping away the sax, sweetening the harmonies, and battering down the groove. Glossary's "Don't Lie to Me" is the kind of exhilarating, rough-and-tumble cover every act worth its salt should be able to muster at closing time. Grand Champeen and Moonlight Towers assert their barroom stripes on "Daisy Glaze" and "September Gurls," while Beaty Wilson and the Archibalds tackle Big Star's heart-heavy flip side with their respective takes on "The Ballad of El Goodo" and "O, Dana." While stabs at "Thirteen" and "In the Street" would've been nice, the album's encapsulation of Big Star's charms is full-grown without them.

★★★ – Greg Beets

THE KRAYONS
Hind Sight Is 20/20
(TFC)

Emerging from the south side of Corpus Christi in 1987, the Krayons plied gravelly, Dischord-influenced hardcore for eight years before hanging it up in 1995. Released in conjunction with their recent Room 710 reunion gig, *Hind Sight* compiles the Krayons' vinyl and cassette output on CD for the first time. These 24 tracks hint at the sweat-soaked immediacy of an all-ages warehouse show in Anytown, USA, but it's difficult to discern what distinguished this band from thousands of others that followed the same trajectory. Therein lies the rub with the era's off-militant conventions and preclusion toward overwrought polemics. Would-be outcast anthems like "Utopia?," "4 A.M. Drunks," and "Alone in a Crowded Room" resonate postadolescent fury, but yapped vocals, plodding drums, and prowess outpaced by ambition conspire to sap the music's shelf life. In a genre that doesn't lend itself to easy nostalgia, sometimes you just had to be there.

★★ – Greg Beets



TEXAS PLATTERS



WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE
FAMOUS

What Doesn't Kill Us (Barsuk)
Who doesn't want What Made Milwaukee Famous to make it big? Like Death Cab big? Sadly, *What Doesn't Kill Us*, the Austin quintet's follow-up to 2004's twice-released *Trying to Never Catch Up*, isn't the album to get them there. A four-year break doesn't exactly foster momentum. "Blood, Sweat & Fears" provides a bombastic kick-start, lead singer Michael Kingcaid brooding in that way that he does, and we're off to the races. But hang on: "Sultan" sounds a little too much like Spoon, and Kingcaid insists on re-reminding us on "Cheap Wine" that he's the rightful heir to Jeff Buckley's throne. On the whole, though, it's hard to pinpoint exactly where the sophomore slump kicks in. The songs are impeccably executed; Milwaukee's sound has certainly benefited from the addition of fifth member Jason Davis on guitar. The lyrics show a bit more personality, although "Middle of the Night" is merely a revision of Burt Bacharach's exhortation for "love sweet love," but the hunger and intensity of *Trying* is missing. In its place is a calculated push for the big leagues that lacks the emotional depth and lyrical sincerity that propel acts like Death Cab out of the minors. To love this particular prêt-à-porter release is to settle for a cheap knockoff rather than the designer original.

★★ – Melanie Haupt

DIASPORIC
Mass Appeal

Though the band's name refers to a displacement of people from their original homeland, Diasporic's first album plays as refugee camp to all wayward genres. The spectrum sways from vintage Roots nod "Organix" to the Living Colour heat warming "Somethin' in Tha Pot." Riffing on genocide in Darfur ("Karbombs in Kabul") and child labor in Cambodia ("24/7"), the Austin quintet is most comfortable voicing for the oppressed. Call it *Mass Appeal*. Vox-man Shorti C punches political musings through a Kravitzian croon ("Come Into My World") and splits the limelight with featured MC AK ("Don't Fade") and fellow Diasporian Blaxsmith, "G-Spot" fixing to "funk your mind" with a backbeat that flows into a "Cool Rivers" afternoon swank complete with *Blood Sugar-ear* Frusciante lead. As tour guide, Ms. C-Note hints at the jump: "Welcome to Planet Dia." Everybody's welcome.

★★★ – Chase Hoffberger



TOO REFRESHING TO BE BOTTLED UP



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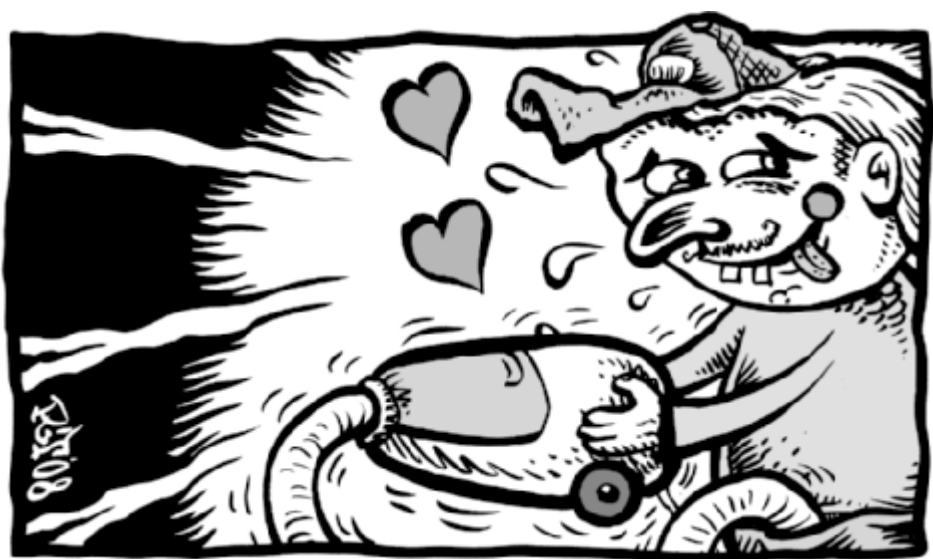
China's societal self-improvement in preparation for the 2008 Olympics continues. The Beijing Tourism Bureau ordered hotels to re-translate English signs, hoping to avoid such notorious past gaffes as "Racist Park," which is now "Park of Ethnic Minorities," and a cafe's attempt to salute Western visitors with "Welcome, big nose friends." And the Beijing Olympics Committee has been training hostesses for months to stand in militarylike precision, straight enough to hold a sheet of paper between their knees, and to smile continuously, showing "six to eight teeth" (even if placing a chopstick in the mouth sideways is necessary for practice). There are height and weight requirements for the hostesses, and each must have an upper- to lower-body ratio of no more than 11-to-13, to eliminate, according to local newspapers, "big bottoms."

INEXPLICABLE

- Prison reformer James McDonough revealed in February the extent of the mess he inherited when taking over the Florida Department of Corrections in 2006 (40 officials charged with crimes, 90 fired, 280 demoted) and said much of the problem centered on inter-department softball. Even though former officials had admitted to contract kickbacks and frequent taxpayer-funded "orgies," McDonough said, "I cannot explain how big an obsession softball had become. People were promoted on the spot after a softball game ... to high positions in the department because they were able to hit a softball out of the park. ... The connection between softball and the parties and the corruption and the beatings [of prisoners] was greatly intertwined."
- Making artistic, themed scrapbooks is a \$2.6 billion industry in the U.S. (nearly one-fifth as large as the adult-video industry) and has a hall of fame as protective of its morals as baseball's, which has shunned gamblers and steroid-users. According to a January *Wall Street Journal* report, one "superstar" scrapbooker, Kristina Contes, was recently kicked out of the hall for violating etiquette by displaying another's photo inside her scrapbook in a competition. Contes said the oversight was inadvertent but that she is now shunned within the community for her grave offense and called "label whore."
- Orlando "public artist" Brian Feldman celebrated Feb. 29 (leap day) by devoting himself to "leaping," according to a report on WOFL-TV. For the entire 24 hours, beginning

NEW OF the WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



A building contractor was caught by a security guard simulating sex with a canister vacuum cleaner (and claiming that he was merely vacuuming his underpants, which he said was a "common practice" in his native Poland) (London, March).

at midnight, Feldman leaped off a 12-foot-high platform every three minutes and 56 seconds (a total of 366 times). Said Feldman, "I thought it would be a good idea to get people to think [about] how they spend their day."

TOO MUCH TIME ON THEIR HANDS

- It struck Leo Hill, 81, of Lakewood, Colo., that he was being shorted sheets of toilet paper (in the 12-pack, whose rolls allegedly yielded fewer sheets than similar rolls in the four-pack), and he earnestly counted 60 rolls, sheet by sheet, concluding that the shortage amounted to enough paper to service one sit-down session per roll. He took his complaint to the *Denver Post* (and even to the Better Business Bureau), but the reporter, trying to replicate Leo's work, found no shortage, in Leo's brand or eight others.

- Jonathan Lee Riches is believed to be the most prolific lawsuit-filer ever to operate from behind bars. His "docket" now includes more than 1,000 cases in just over two years (with eight more years to go on a federal sentence for fraud), including claims totaling several trillion dollars from "injuries" inflicted on him by such people as President Bush, Martha Stewart, Steve Jobs, Britney Spears, Tiger Woods (luggage theft), Barry Bonds (illegal moonshine production), and football player Michael Vick (\$63 billion for allegedly stealing Riches' pit bulls and selling them on eBay so that Vick could in turn buy missiles from Iran).

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

- German artist Markus Kison created a full-body burqua, the robe that devout Muslim women wear for modesty, equipped to send a digital signal of the wearer's face to anyone

nearby via Bluetooth. According to a February report in *Der Spiegel*, Kison reasoned that, since nothing in the Quran specifically forbids it, women can use it to determine their own personal levels of modesty.

- First, Arkansas Tech University canceled outright its production of the Stephen Sondheim play *Assassins* (containing some violence) because of "recent tragic events" on campuses, but then relented because of the hard work that the students had already put in. In February, the production was staged in full, one time, to an audience solely of participants' families, who presumably could handle the violence. However, even that showing took place without the play's prescribed guns, even though they were only wooden props. (The "guns" were later discarded but only after being sawed in half.)

RECURRING THEMES

- People continue to purposely maim themselves in various schemes. Daniel Kuch allegedly had a friend shoot him in the shoulder so he could get time off work (and was arrested for telling police that it was a drive-by) (Pasco, Wash.; February). And Elizabeth Hingston, 24, let her boyfriend break her leg by jumping on it so that the pair could claim insurance proceeds worth the equivalent of \$200,000 (Plymouth, England; November). And Zachary Booso, 19, shot himself in the cheek, shoulder, and thigh so that he could brag to his friends and ex-girlfriend that he is involved with gangs (Brownsburg, Ind.; March).

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN

- 1) Police Officer Thomas Wilson pleaded guilty to having 8,742 images of child pornography on his computer, but the judge acknowledged that Wilson might have acquired them "somewhat accidentally" (Brisbane, Australia; March).
- 2) Ernest Simmons was convicted of attempted murder of two sheriff's deputies despite his defense that he only "accidentally" shot at them (11 times, using two guns) (Orlando, January).
- 3) Accused purse-snatcher Derrick Dale, 21, said that the purse fell on his foot and (according to the arrest report) "the next thing he knew, [it] was in his hands" (Destin, Fla.; January).

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com).

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com. ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

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calendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 17 - THURSDAY, APRIL 24

C

COMMUNITY p.80 +

A

RTS p.88 +

f

ILM p.94 +

M

USIC listings p.107

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC**) BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Thursday 17

AUSTIN CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING Third Thursdays, 7:30pm. Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Rd. (in Zilker Botanical Gardens). Free. www.austincss.com.

CRAZY SEXY CANCER BOOT CAMP Kris Carr, the filmmaker behind the inspirational *Crazy Sex Cancer*, comes to the Crossings offering hope and advice on the road to recovery. Check www.thecrossingsaustin.com for room rates and schedule. Thu-Sun., April 17-20. The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 877/944-3003. \$510. www.crazysexcancer.blogspot.com.

EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLLEXIA ART EXHIBITION See the thoughts and feelings of young people coping with dyslexia as revealed through their art. If it moves you, lay down some cash to support the Rawson-Saunders School for Dyslexic Children. Opening reception, April 17, 6-8pm. Exhibition, through June 10. Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, 1314 W. 45th, 476-8382. Free. www.rawson-saunders.org.

GROWNUP SPELLING BEE FOR LITERACY Support Literacy Coalition of Central Texas, and watch 19 teams of spellers go head-to-head. Hosted by Kirk Watson. 11:30am. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 320-4505. \$50. www.willread.org.

KILOWATT OURS Celebrate Earth Day early with a showing of *Kilowatt Ours*, an engaging film showing just how easy saving energy can be. Music and discussion will follow as money is earned for local green orgs. 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5 donation.

ON YOUR FEET BENEFIT SHOW This international dance and music celebration headlined by Grupo Fantasma will benefit **Casa Marianella**, which assists and houses immigrants and refugees from around the globe. 7pm. Monarch Events Center, 6406 N. I-35 #3100. \$20 (\$15, advance). www.onyourfeetworld.org.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Art Palace

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Kilowatt Ours @ Ruta Maya, 6:45pm
Where Do the Children Play? @ Mexican American Cultural Center, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Psychedelic Shack The Parish
Old Settler's Music Fest Camp Ben McCulloch
On Your Feet International Music & Dance Extravaganza Monarch Event Center
Son Volt Antone's

Friday 18

BIG IDEA DAY Come and meet the finalists with big ideas about a new business. Michelle Anton, author of *The Weekend Entrepreneur*, will instruct and inspire. See who will take home the cash that accompanies the best business plan award. 8am-1:30pm. Hilton Garden Inn, 500 N. I-35, 928-8010. \$80. www.bigaustin.org.

CANOPY & FRIENDS Come celebrate the dogs of Austin, past and present. Send photos of your beloved mutt to ilovemikellitt@gmail.com for a slide show of canine memories. Bands keep tails waggin' all night long. See Club Listings, p.118, for a complete lineup. 9pm-2am. Club de Ville, 900 Red River, 457-0900. \$5.

ENTREPRENEUR FUNDING SYMPOSIUM Learn how to get money from venture capital firms. You'll have to pay for that information, though. 8:30am-5pm. The Commons Center at the J.J. Pickle Center, 10100 Burnet Rd. \$100. www.fundingsymposium.com.

KVRX SPRING BENEFIT CONCERT To kick off their spring pledge drive, KVRX offers an evening of music to start the fund flood. See Club Listings, p.112, for a full lineup. 7:30pm-2am. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen. \$7. www.kvrx.org.

LOUIS GREGORY RACE UNITY SYMPOSIUM convenes today with a day of workshops addressing this year's conference theme, **Racial Harmony: From the Personal to the Global**. Historian Richard Thomas delivers the keynote address. 12:30-5:30pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 369-3701. Free. lgrus@simjon.com, www.austinbahal.org.

MARIJUANA LAW FOR MUSICIANS Attorney Charlie Roadman brings his services to Austin's music community. Got weed in the van? Know when an officer can and cannot search your car and what to expect if you're busted. Also included is a short seminar on DWI Law for Social Drinkers. 7-8:30pm. Mohawk, 912 Red River, 472-1113.

Free. www.roadmanlaw.com, www.myspace.com/marijuanawal.

MUSIC TO LIFT THE SPIRIT This choral concert is a fundraiser for **Faith in Action Caregivers**. 7pm. Hope Lutheran Church, 6414 N. Hampton, 453-7756.

Donations accepted. www.faithinactioncaregivers.org.

PEOPLE UNITED has the SEED Coalition's Karen Hadden and Public Citizen's Matt Johnson speaking on nuclear power and the environment. Allan Campbell hosts, with a weekly commentary from Rahul Mahajan. Fri., April 18, 1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

REBIRTH BRASS BAND Their heavy funk is an institution, and they'll be playing to benefit the **Capital Area Food Bank**. What reason is there not to go? 8pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

WATER CONSERVATION CONFERENCE With the Texas population set to double in the next 40 years, it's time to move beyond standard conservation. Learn advanced water saving techniques on a grand scale. Go to www.texaswatermatters.org/state_water_conference_2008.htm to register. 8:30am-4pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. \$35.

EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Artspoken Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Koyaanisqatsi @ Terrazas Library, 3:30pm
Paradise Now @ Wells Branch Community Library, 7pm
Super High Me @ Alamo Ritz, 4:20pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Buddy Guy with Dirty Dozen Brass Band Stubb's
Nick Lowe Antone's
Throw Me the Statue, the Ruby Suns Mohawk
Old Settler's Music Fest Camp Ben McCulloch
Murder Ballads Night Scoot Inn & Bier Garten
Negativland Alamo Drahtthouse at the Ritz

Saturday 19

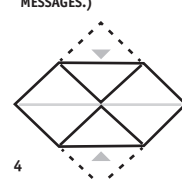
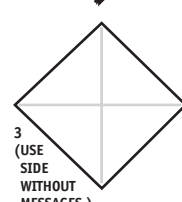
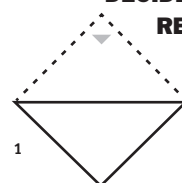
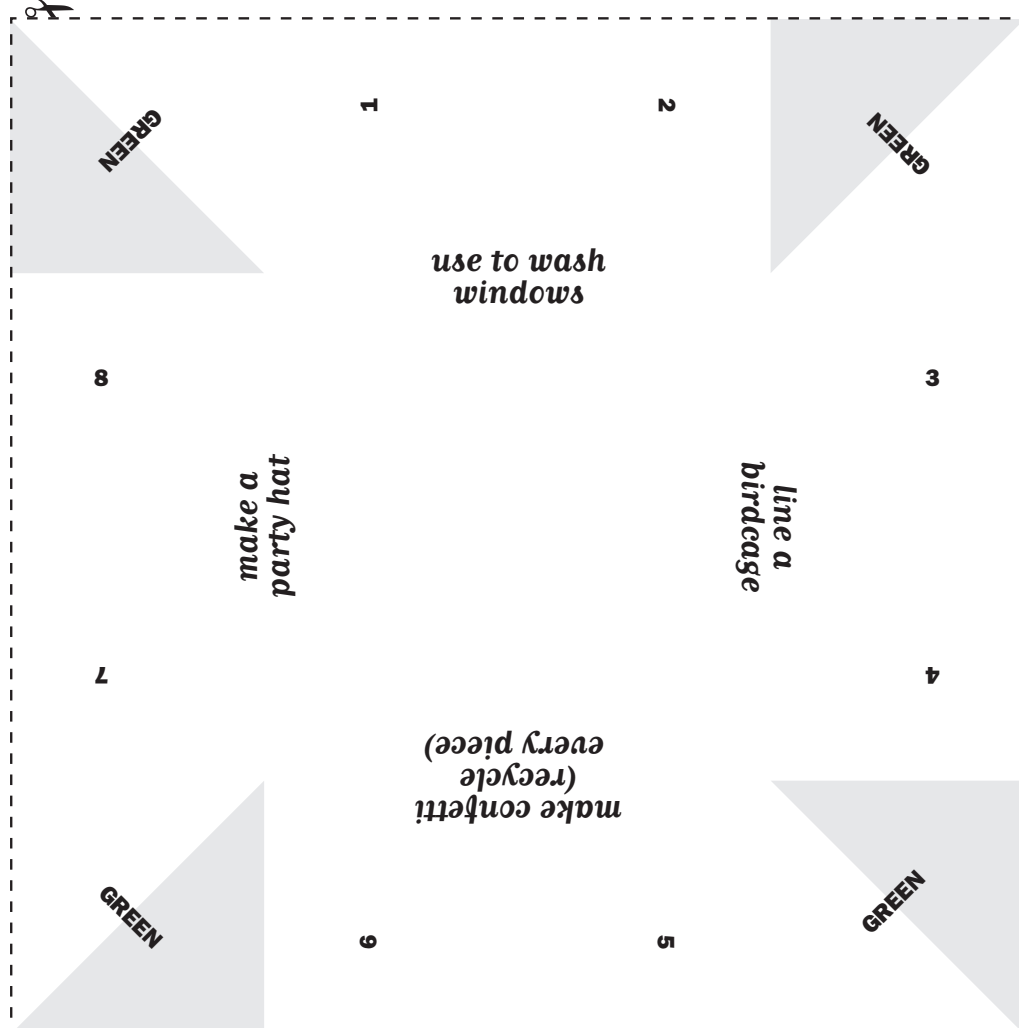
AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN & BOYS CONFERENCE This year's theme is anger management and features workshops by the Austin Independent School District. Everyone is invited (including girls) in the hopes that students will learn the skills to graduate and teachers will find improved ways to get them there. 10am-2pm. McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine. Free.

AMERICAN HEROES CELEBRATION & AIRSHOW Bring nonperishable food items for **Capital Area Food Bank** or some blood to donate, and enjoy this free weekend with an air show (April 19 only), mechanical bull, and laser tag. If that isn't enough, the Texas Military Forces Museum will be open and free to the public. If that isn't enough, there will

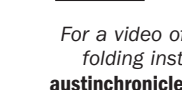


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TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FIDDLERS FROLICS April 24-27 Hallettsville

★ **Fiddle Contest**

★ **Barbecue Cook-Off**

★ **Songwriting Contest**


Saturday, April 26
 9:00 – 5:00 Fiddle Contest
 10:00 a.m. Texas Songwriters' Serenade
 1:00 p.m. Wilfred Chevis (Cajun/Zydeco)
 3:30 p.m. Sausage Cook-Off Judging
 6:00 p.m. Legendary Pete Mayes & the Texas House Rockers
 8:30 p.m. Dance featuring members of Ace in The Hole Band

Thursday, April 24
 6:00 p.m. Jam Session

Friday, April 25
 5:00 – 9:00 Cajun Food
 6:30 p.m. Fiddle Contest
 9:30 p.m. Fiddlin' Frenchie Burke

Sunday, April 27
 9:30 – 6:00 Fiddle Contest
 10:30 a.m. Barbecue Showmanship
 1:00 p.m. Patrick Murphy & Murphy's Law
 1:00 p.m. Barbecue Cook-Off Judging

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be living history encampments and live battle re-enactments featuring tanks. If tanks aren't enough, you might as well stay home. *Sat.-Sun., April 19-20, 9am-4pm. Camp Mabry, 35th & MoPac. Free. www.heroes-airshow.com.*

ARTIST'S MARKET Most Saturdays, 10am-6pm (check website for changes). Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 535-5761. Free. www.downtownartistmarket.com.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

✪ **BRIGHT LEAF OPEN HOUSE** Hikes, bikes, and activities for the tykes. Nature, birding, geology, and botany experts will be on hand to bring this shady area to light. 9am-1pm. Bright Leaf (see website for directions), 459-7269. Free. www.brightleaf.org.

✪ **BUY CLOTHES, HELP TORTOISES** Buy clothes at any Buffalo Exchange location, and help restore the ecosystem of the Espanola tortoises. All Buffalo Exchange locations, 866/235-8255. www.buffaloexchange.com, www.galapagos.org.

✪ **CITYWIDE GARDEN TOURS** The Travis County Master Gardeners' Association presents a day of sustainability-themed garden tours. Go to the website for locations, times, and descriptions of the presentations. 9am-4pm. 854-9600. \$10 (children free). www.insideaustingardens.org.

CLOTHES SWAP & FABRIC BAZAAR Bring clean clothes to give away, and you can take home the bounty of others' closets. One woman's stone-washed jeans are another man's – well – stone-washed jeans. Fabrics and designer overstock will be available for purchase. 9am-4pm. First Samples, 120 Academy Dr. #303, 326-3393. Free. www.firstsamples.com.

COMMUNITY CENTER GRAND OPENING Come for the ribbon cutting, stay for the games, music, dance, spoken word, food, etc. 10am-5:30pm. East Austin Community Center, 6002 Jain. Free. www.swkey.org.

EDUCATORS RESEARCH DISCUSSION CIRCLE 9:30am. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.

✪ **GROWING GREEN** Learn about the green craze of xeriscaping from John Gleason. If it's good enough for the Howson landscaping project, it's good enough for your yard. 10:30am. Howson Branch of the Austin Public Library, 2500 Exposition, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

HEART O' TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW & SALE Get all your orchid questions answered by the experts, and maybe even win one in an hourly raffle this weekend as you peruse hundreds of flowers in full bloom. *Sat.-Sun., April 19-20, 10am-4pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 280-2271. Free. geoffreyfrost@yahoo.com, www.hotos.org.*

HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND: STEPS FOR SUCCESS This day of hands-on instruction assists the Latino community with the college preparation and application process, from the SAT to financial aid. 8:30am-2pm. Akins High School, 10701 S. First, 637-5234. Free. www.hsf.net.

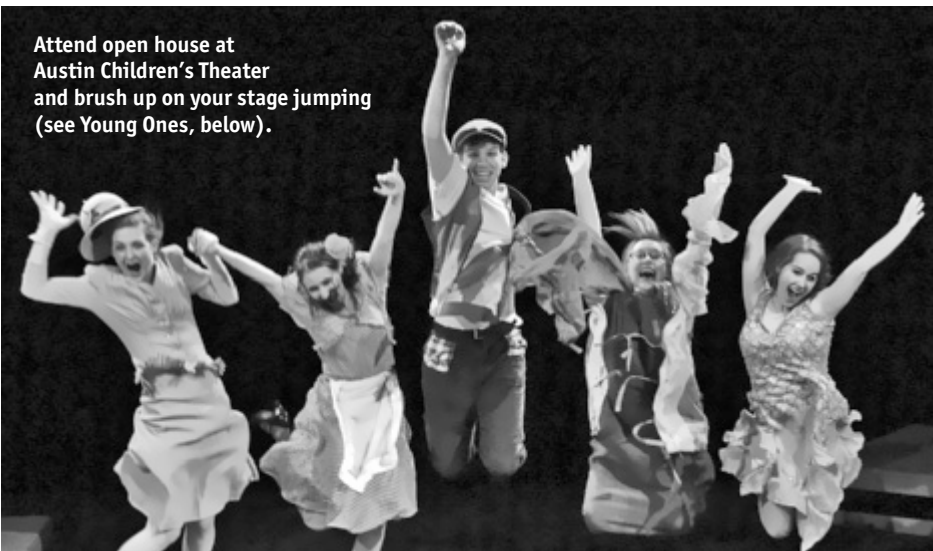
the young ones

KAUILA THE TURTLE Zach Theatre's Education Department presents this Hawaiian tale of a magic turtle. Reservations are required for your children (recommended for ages 3-7). *Through May 2. Check website, or call for times and dates. Zach's Kleberg Stage, 1510 Toomey, 476-0594 x236. \$5 (adults free with child admission). www.zachscott.com.*

✪ **EARTH DAY DROP-IN EVENTS** Come in during specific times all this week, and make a craft, borrow a book, and learn new ways to keep the planet green. Visit www.cityofaustin.org/library for a full schedule. *Through April 23. Public libraries all over town, 974-7400. Free.*

OVERCROWDING SOLUTIONS AT LINDER ELEMENTARY Officials will meet with parents of students who attend the most crowded campus in the Austin Independent School District. Listen to possible solutions and give your 2 cents. *Thu., April 17, 6pm. Linder Elementary, 2800 Metcalfe. Free.*

✪ **GREEN DOC SCREENING** Get the kids thinking green early with this



Attend open house at Austin Children's Theater and brush up on your stage jumping (see Young Ones, below).

INTUITIVE ENERGY HEALING will clear your chakra. Bring your pets after 1pm, and unblock their stagnant energies, too. 6:30am-2:30pm. First Spiritualist Church of Austin, 4200 Avenue D. Donations appreciated. www.fscoa.org.

✪ **LIVING GREEN FESTIVAL** The Austin Farmers' Market and Austin Green Art bring a day of children's art projects, a cooking demo, organic food sampling, and more than 40 earth-friendly exhibitors. Did I mention 20 bikes will be put into circulation by the Yellow Bike Project? All this and a soundtrack from the solar-powered stage. 9am-5pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe. Free. www.austinearthday.com.

✪ **MCKINNEY ROUGHS EARTH DAY FESTIVAL** McKinney is going green! Well, it's been green for a while, and those trees aren't using too much energy. Celebrate with guided hikes, nature crafts, conservation demos, food, music, and more. When all that green excitement starts to wear thin, do some green relaxing with a guided raft trip (\$15, pre-registration needed). 10am-3pm. McKinney Roughs Nature Park, 1884 Hwy. 71 W., Cedar Creek, 512/303-5073. Free. www.lcra.org/parks.

MUSIC UNDER THE LIVE OAK SEMINAR SERIES features a talk on *Turf Grass*, followed by a performance from Chrissy Platt. Noon-3pm. The Emerald Garden, 5700 Hwy. 290 W., 288-5900. Free. www.emerald-garden.com.

PAWTY IN THE PAWKING LOT Bring the pets to this celebration of creatures with paws. Games, prizes, and the cute, four-legged devils that are far more effective than any salesperson. 10am-2pm. Austin Vet Care, 12419 Metric, 832-1088. Free. www.austinvetcare.com.

SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION aims to help you achieve balance, inner peace, and resistance to stress, depression, and anxiety. Saturdays, 11am-noon. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 828-0129. Free. www.austinsahajayoga.org.

LET'S BE FRIENDS STORYTIME features Miss Nicole reading *Since We're Friends: An Autism Storybook* by Celeste Shally and then leads a discussion with activities. This event is in support of Autism Awareness Month. *Sat., April 19, 11:30am. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

HAND TALK SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS Join Sadrah Maxine Black as she opens up the world of sign language to kids (1pm) and adults (2pm). For more, see her website, www.myboree.com. *Sat., April 19, 1-4pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 923-9523. Free. www.mitchie.com.*

CHILDREN'S THEATER OPEN HOUSE has food, music, games, etc., and three lucky kids will win free enrollment into one of their summer camps. Teachers and staff will be there to tell you what those summer camps are all about. *Sat., April 19, 1-5pm. Sri Atmananda, 4100 Red River, 927-6633. Free. www.austinchildrenstheater.org.*

WIZARD OF OZ closes out the spring Paramount Kid's Series with a musical jaunt down the Yellow Brick Road.

SHRED DAY The Association of Records Managers and Administrators and the city of Austin host this event providing information on recycling, preventing identity theft, and managing your financial documents and other records. You can bring up to five file boxes of paper records to be shredded for free. 7:30am-2:30pm. Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez, 974-9045. Free. jannette.goodall@ci.austin.tx.us.

SOUTH ASIAN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL Come and celebrate the music, food, dancing, and fashion of South Asia. Jewelry and dresses will be on sale, and entertainment for the kids will be provided. Noon-9:30pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr., 413-9193. Free. www.tbca-austin.org.

TEXAS BAMBOO SOCIETY Learn all about the different types of bamboo that grow well in Austin, and groom some bamboo yourself in the Taniguchi Japanese Garden (bring hand clippers, loppers, a saw, and gloves). *Sat., April 19, 10am-1pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 301-2929. Free. www.bamboocentral.net.*

WILCO ANIMAL SHELTER BARK & PURR FEST Support the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter. They make it easy by offering raffles, garage and bake sales, and more. Vaccine and microchipping clinics will be offered for \$10, and adoption fees will be reduced during the fest. 8am-5pm. WCRAS, 1855 S.E. Inner Loop, Georgetown, 512/943-3322. Free. www.wilcopets.org.

WORLD BEAT BENEFIT Admission gets you world music, dance performances, food, and a silent auction, all to benefit *Refugee Services of Texas*. *Sat., April 19, 6pm-12mid. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$10. www.worldbeatsevent.com.*

YARD SALE FOR NOLA Help 30 area students raise the funds for a community building trip to New Orleans. 7am-noon. United Christian Church, 3500 W. Parmer. church@uccaustin.org.

Sun., April 20, 2 & 4:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$7.50-35. www.austintheatre.org.

SCIENCE SUNDAY has zero gravity experiments and video footage, along with actual satellites to examine. Your kids will be floating in space. *Sun., April 20 & 27, 3pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$3.50-5.50 (free, kids under 12 months). www.austinkids.org.*

YOUTH THEATRE AGAINST VIOLENCE The Changing Lives Youth Theatre Company presents *Unmask the Unseen*, a play that raises awareness about dating violence. Carolyn Mosley of the Ortralla Foundation will be in attendance the first two nights. *April 23 & 25, 7pm; April 26, 6pm. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th. Free. www.theatreactionproject.org.*

VIDEO GAME TOURNAY & WORKSHOP A former designer for the Madden franchise will be on hand to give tips prior to the Halo 3 and Madden 08 tournaments. *Sat., April 19, 9:30am-3pm. DeVry University, 1104 Research. Free.*

YOGA FOR RUNNERS Get the racing edge with postures to stretch your body and mind. 2pm. Kula Yoga, 2415 Exposition Blvd., 542-3334. \$30. www.austinkulayoga.com.

EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
The Blanton Museum of Art

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11:55pm
The Lives of Others @ German Free School, 7:30pm
The Thing @ Alamo Ritz, 4:15pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Prince Paul Mohawk JFA Red 7
Indian Jewelry Emo's
Benevento-Russo Duo The Parish
Old Settler's Music Fest Camp Ben McCulloch
Austin Reggae Festival Auditorium Shores
Negativland Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz

Sunday 20

A TRIP TO NEPAL A country often lost between its two neighbors, India and China, Nepal has a rich history all its own. Bill and Suzy Reid will impart their knowledge of Nepal's history, religion, geography, and show photos of their enlightening trip. 11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

AUTHOR DISCUSSION ON RACISM Chip Smith, author of *The Cost of Privilege: Taking on the System of White Supremacy and Racism*, gets the talk going. 6pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

CHRISTIAN VALUES IN POLITICAL PARTIES How does Christianity manifest itself in the four largest parties? Dem, GOP, libertarian, and green representatives will show you the truth. 2pm. University Christian Church, 2007 University Ave. Free. www.uccforums.org.

✪ **EARTH DAY AT TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY** This green celebration focuses on building community around our water resources. Bring recyclables in exchange for kayak tours and glass-bottom boat rides. Music, dancing, informational booths, and Rep. Lloyd Doggett will add to the festivities. 1-6pm. Texas State University, 601 University Dr., San Marcos. Free. www.aquarena.txstate.edu.

✪ **ECO HOME TOUR** Take a tour of green homes throughout Austin, and donate some money to **Urban Roots**, a group that brings sustainable and healthy foods to kids who don't have access to such things. Call or check the website for a schedule and list of homes being toured. 1:30-6pm. 468-4772. Free. www.ecoseriestexas.com.

HOUSE PARK STADIUM TURF PARTY Come say goodbye to the grassy field of this 71-year-old facility. No, not the whole stadium, just the grass; it's being replaced with artificial turf. Come and share your memories of greener times. 2pm. House Park Stadium, 1301½ Shoal Creek Blvd. Free.

JOHN LENNON HOOT ROCK 'N' ROLL REVIVAL See Music Listings, p.107, for info on this all-night Lennon love-in.

RECUMBENT BIKE RALLY Get 'bent at this gathering of three- and two-wheeled cyclists. Recumbent bike guru Thad Sitton leads a 12-mile ride through Hyde Park (2pm), but you'll be parting with food, music, and more. Don't worry, it's a loop. Noon-5pm. Easy Street, 5555 N. Lamar Ste. C-127. Free. www.easystreetrecumbents.com.

✪ **SUN-COOKING & SIMPLE LIVING WORKSHOP** Jenny Nazak of Austin Permaculture Guild shows you how to live simply and get those energy and water bills to 10% of the American average. Other topics include composting, gray-water use, and cleaning the green way. Attendees must call to register. 10am-1pm. The Micropalace, address provided upon registration, 619-5363. \$25. www.permie.us.

AMERICAN HEROES CELEBRATION & AIRSHOW (See Saturday.)

HEART O' TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW & SALE (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Around the World in 80 Days @ Alamo Drafthouse South, noon
Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 11:55pm

AMERICAN HEROES CELEBRATION

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING



- AIRSHOW
- MECHANICAL BULL
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- LASER TAG
- PEDESTAL JOUST



SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH-20TH
CAMP MABRY: 2200 W. 35TH ST AUSTIN TX

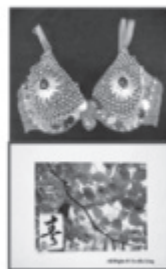
GRAPHIC II Art & Art Bra Event

Saturday, April 26, 2008, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
 Design Center at Penn Field
 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C



Music by Natalie Zoe, DJ Lick Samba
 Emcee Hon. Kirk Watson
 Silent Art Auction: 6:00
 Art Bra Runway Show: 7:30
 Food by Carrabba's Italian Grill
 Beverages by Twin Liquors & Steaz

Tickets: \$30 per person 512-544-0903 or www.bcrc.org



April 26th
9am-6pm
~Free~

Toney Burger Center
 3200 Jones Road



Art

Including local artists, the Texas Society of Sculptors, and Austin Green Art

Music

Live music by Texana Dames, Dr. Zog Band, Jazz Puerto Rico, the Old Holdouts, and the Bowie HS Steel Drum Ensemble

Kids Activities & Food

Eco Kids and Sunset Valley Elementary Art Display



A + B = C



AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART

New Art in Austin:
20 to Watch

Downtown • 823 Congress Ave. Tuesday–Saturday 10–6
 Suite 100 • Austin, TX 78701 Thursday 10–8
 512.495.9224 • www.amoa.org Sunday Noon–5

The exhibition, catalogue, and tour are presented by
 Wentwood Capital Advisors. Additional funding is provided
 from the National Endowment for the Arts.



The Blanton
 Museum of Art

Atelier 2008: Selections from
the Department of Art and
Art History Faculty at the
University of Texas Austin

The University of Texas at Austin
 MLK at Congress • Austin, TX 78701
 512.471.7324 • www.blantonmuseum.org

This exhibition is organized by the Blanton Museum
 of Art with support from the College of Fine Arts,
 The University of Texas at Austin.

Tuesday–Friday 10–5
 Saturday 11–5
 Sunday 1–5

ART+ART HISTORY
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 College of Fine Arts

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collective
conceptual
cutting edge
community

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\$1 OFF ADMISSION

Super High Me @ Alamo Ritz, 4:20pm
The Thing @ Alamo Ritz, 1:45, 9:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Cat Power *Stubb's*
Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks *La Zona Rosa*
Mike Doughty *Antone's*
Old Settler's Music Fest *Camp Ben McCulloch*
Austin Reggae Festival *Auditorium Shores*
John Lennon Hoot Rock 'n' Roll Revival
Ruta Maya

Monday 21

ALTERNATIVE REMEDIES TO SEASONAL ALLERGIES Herbalist Anne Merrill will share her long- and short-term herbal remedies for your allergies. 7pm. *Plant Spirits Apothecary*, 1203 E. Seventh, 476-8422. \$25. www.texasmedicinals.com.
AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING *First and third Mondays, 7pm. Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free.* www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle.
★ **BIKING FOR AUSTIN & THE EARTH** The Yellow Bike Project and city staff members will host this workshop on bicycle safety and repair. Get the skinny on current and future bike paths too. 5:30pm. *Terrazas branch of the Austin Public Library, 1105 Cesar Chavez, 974-7400. Free.* www.cityofaustin.org/library.
★ **PARKLAND DONATION CASE-STUDY** How did Irvine, Calif., finagle a donation of 1,300 acres of land and \$400 million for a park? More importantly, how can we do that in Austin? Irvine Mayor Pro Tem Larry Agran will tell his David-gets-Goliath-sized-park story. 6pm. *Huston-Tillotson, Agard-Lovingood Auditorium, 900 Chicon, 505-3125. Free.*
WINE BAT BLIND TASTING consists of six wines and paired appetizers. This week's theme is the Rhone Valley. 7pm. *Green Pastures, 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151. \$25 plus tax & gratuity. www.winebat.com.*

EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)
SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
“**Cry Freetown**” and “**Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone**” @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm
Box Elder @ Dobie, 7:30pm
The Thing @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Dimmu Borgir *Stubb's*
Tift Merritt *The Parish*

Tuesday 22

ALTERNATIVE FINANCING CLASS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES Learn how to finance your business without conventional bank loans in this two-part workshop from the city of Austin Small Business Development Program. Pre-registration required. Tue. & Thu., April 22 & 24, 6-9pm. *International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-7800. \$35.* www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.
★ **CAP METRO EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS** All you Earth Day early birds can help Keep Austin Beautiful by volunteering your time for a Cap Metro event. E-mail brian@keepaustinbeautiful.org for details. 6-8am. www.keeapaustinbeautiful.org.
DRIVING TIPS FROM CZECHS Learn how best to avoid the infamous Austin traffic. Part of the Austin Czech Historical Association's regular meetings, but everyone is invited. Just bring food for the pot-luck. 7pm. *Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W. Anderson, 892-1385. Free.* www.austinczechs.com.
★ **DUMP THE PUMP** Bring five plastic bags, and try public transportation the morning of Earth Day, and you can exchange them for a reusable “i-Ride” bag. See www.capmetro.org for a list of exchange sites. 5-8am.

★ **FAITH BASED RESPONSE TO EARTH DAY** Mayor Will Wynn talks up the Austin Climate Protection Plan followed by a conversation on faith-based responses to environmental issues. 7pm. *Central Christian Church, 1110 Guadalupe, 476-6941. Free.* www.cccaustin.org.
FAMILIES IN GRIEF COUNSELING is a six-week program designed for families with children ages 6 to 18. The first session is Tue., April 22, 6-7:30pm and meets weekly. Attendance at all sessions is required. *Hyde Park Christian Church, 610 E. 45th, 342-4700. Free.*
TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK meets monthly for ladies who love fishing, kayaking, camping, and other fresh-air activities. *Fourth Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Old Quarry Library, 7051 Village Center Dr. www.townaustin.org.*
★ **UT EARTH DAY EXTRAVAGANZA** The Environmental Health & Safety Department presents this event packed with eco-friendly organizations, games, giveaways, and green vehicles. 10am-3pm. *East Mall & Speedway Plaza. Free.* michele.hallahan@austin.utexas.edu.
EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)
SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
An Inconvenient Truth @ Howson Library, 6:30pm
Goodbye, Dragon Inn @ Alamo South, 7pm
Nanking @ Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7pm
The 11th Hour @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 6pm
The Day After Tomorrow @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
The Thing @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm
MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Converge, Coliseum, Genghis Tron *Red 7*
Willie “Big Eyes” Smith *Antone's*

Wednesday 23

CHANGING LIVES YOUTH THEATRE PERFORMANCES See the theatrical output of high schoolers who have turned the violence they've endured into art. It's all part of an outreach program to educate kids about the root of violence and how to break the cycle. Wed. & Fri., April 23 & 25, 7pm. *Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 442-8773. Free.* www.theatreactionproject.org.
EMANCIPET BENEFIT – CAUSE FOR DRINKS Help a good cause while drinking. Bands will play to help those drinks go down smoothly. Just think, the worse your hangover, the more you've helped your furry friends. 6-10pm. *Tiniest Bar in Texas, 817 W. Fifth, 391-6222. Free.* www.alldaybuffet.org.
MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET This growers-only market features fresh food, chef demos, kids activities, live music, and more every week, rain or shine. *Wednesdays, 4-8pm. The Triangle, 46th Street, between Guadalupe and Lamar. Free.* www.austinfarmersmarket.org.
EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)
SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Avant Cinema: A Dazzling Trio @ Austin Studios Screening Room, 7pm
Beat Films: Desolation Angels @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
Super High Me @ Alamo Ritz, 9:55pm
MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Thrice, Circa Survive, Pelican *Stubb's*
Rush *Frank Erwin Center*
Dark Inside the Sun *The Opera House*

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The **Odessa Meteor Crater** wouldn't have looked like much more than a shallow indentation on the flat landscape to the first people who saw it. Long before I-20 dissected the Permian Basin, the second-largest meteorite crater in the U.S. looked more like a West Texas buffalo wallow than the site of a serious intergalactic impact.

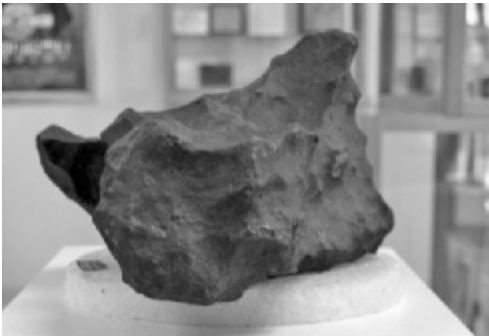
“You can see where the rock has been turned up by the explosion,” says Bob Rice, caretaker of the 10-acre site for Ector County. The collision with an extraterrestrial rock happened some 50,000 years ago.

By the time cattlemen arrived, the 100-foot-deep bowl had filled in to about 6 feet below the rim with sand and dirt from the surrounding desert. A local rancher discovered the depression while looking for a lost calf. He thought it was a blowout hole caused by gases escaping from below the surface.

It wasn't until a visiting geologist noticed a volcanicleike rock found at the site, being used as a paperweight on a desk, that anybody recognized the possibility of a meteorite strike. In 1922, Dr. Elias Sellards identified the crater while looking for a commercial quantity of potash. “We still get scientists visiting from around the world,” Rice says.

Up until World War II, the University of Texas and other entities conducted scientific studies at the site. Several feet of sediment were excavated from the partially filled 550- to 650-foot-diameter crater. Standing on the edge of the blast zone, under the shade of a picnic pavilion, you can easily see the indentation caused by the falling meteor.

In the center of the depression is a concrete slab surrounded by a fence, the remainder of a 165-foot shaft dug to look for the remains of a meteorite. Scientists never found a main meteorite because it hit with such velocity that it nearly vaporized on impact. “The biggest chunk ever found in the main crater was about 300 pounds,” Rice says.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

A smaller crater next to the main crater has a 6-ton piece buried at the bottom, he says. There are three other craters in the vicinity. Each was formed during a shower of rare nickel-iron or metallic meteorites. Most outer space rocks that make it through our atmosphere are small and resemble rocks found on earth.

A dirt path takes visitors down one side, across the bottom of the crater, up the far side, and along the rim for a complete view of the explosion site. From the bottom, the hole looks massive, and the jagged rock walls point in every direction. The visitors center towers overhead like a lighthouse.

If you have even a passing interest in meteoritics or geology, then the small museum at the park offers big surprises. Along with the hundreds of samples of heavenly formed rocks is a meteorite found in Argentina sliced so thinly that light shines through its light-green quartz. A volleyball-sized piece of meteorite found in the crater looks like molten iron and weighs 70 pounds.

There is even a piece of a Martian meteorite on display.

Scientists guess that the meteorite that hit near Odessa was probably debris from the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Meteorite craters are exceptionally rare because the falling debris is seldom large enough to be found without metal detection equipment.

Meteor Crater outside of Winslow, Ariz., claims the prize as the largest meteorite crater in North America. Formed about the same time as the Odessa crater, the Arizona blast site is 550 feet deep, 4,000 feet across, and 2.4 miles in circumference. The family that discovered the crater still operates the remote site as a tourist and learning facility with a restaurant, a gift shop, movies, and tours.

The Odessa Meteor Crater is about three miles west of the city limits and two miles north of I-20 on Meteor Crater Road. Admission is free, but donations are cheerfully accepted in the tip jar. The gates are open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, and Sunday, 1-5pm. “Tell everybody we're sometimes open on Monday, but you can't count on it,” Rice says. To get more information, call 432/381-0946 or go to www.nwol.net/virtdomains/meteorcrater.

876th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of “Day Trips” 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

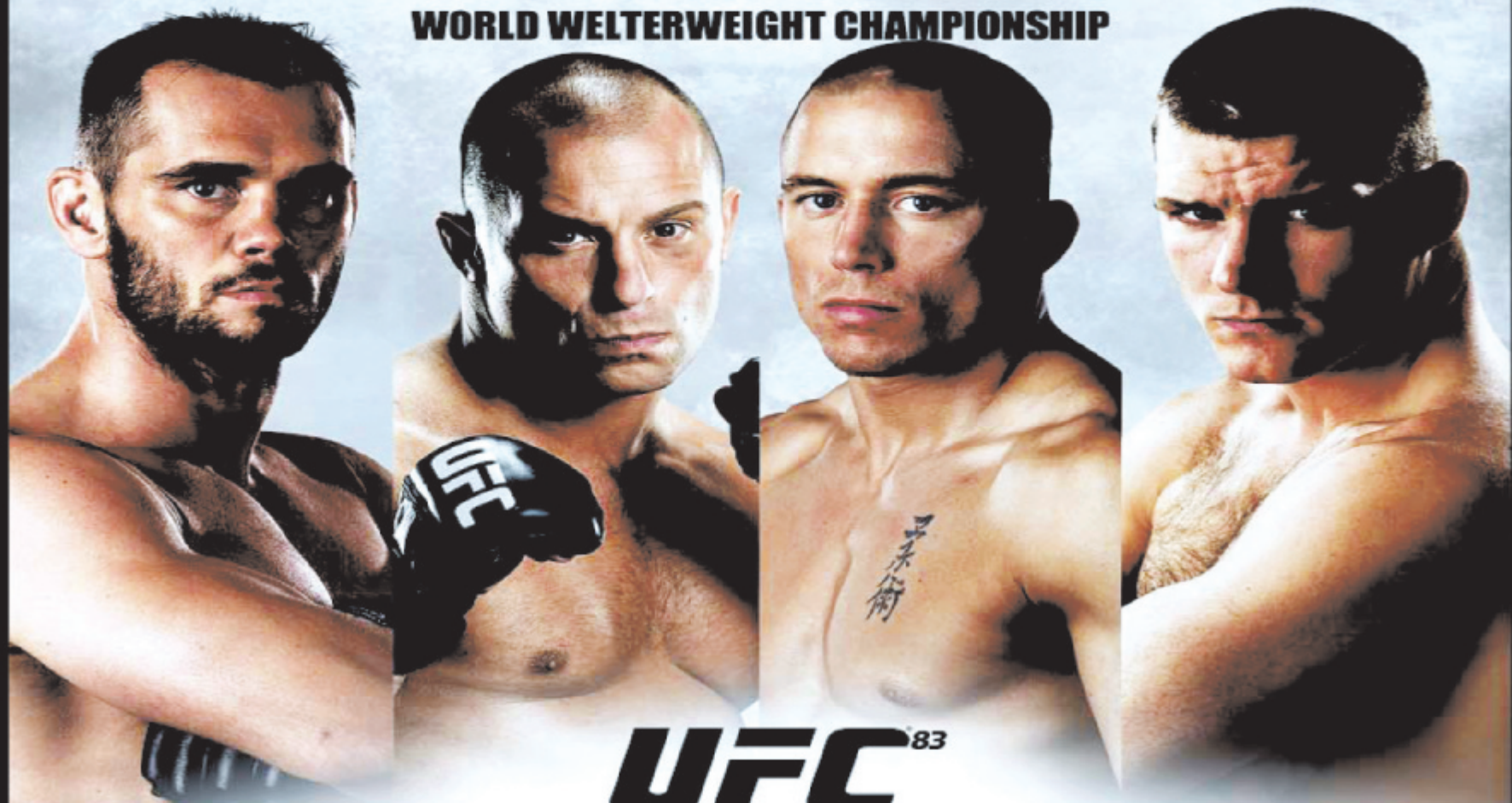
out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

COTTON GIN FESTIVAL brings the oldest operating cotton gin in America back to life with tours, entertainment, antique tractors, folklife demonstrations, an arts & crafts show, food vendors, children's activities, and more. Fri., April 18, 6pm-12mid; Sat., April 19, 9am-1am; Sun., April 20, 9am-7pm. *Burton, 979/289-3378.* www.cottonginmuseum.org.
TEXAS MESQUITE ART FESTIVAL takes a tree that ranchers hate and woodworkers love, and the result is unique art that showcases the beautiful grain of the wood. Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. *Fort Concho, San Angelo, 866/839-3378.* www.texasmesquiteassn.org.
FOUNDERS DAY FESTIVAL kicks off with a Friday evening parade and offers a weekend of music, arts & crafts, a carnival, washer-pitching tournament, food, and children's activities. Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. *Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, 512/858-4725.* www.foundersdayfestival.com.
FIESTA SAN ANTONIO turns the Alamo City into a 10-day party with sporting events, art shows, parades, music, and lots of food. Fri.-Sun., April 18-27. *Various locations, San Antonio, 877/723-4378.* www.fiesta-sa.org.
BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL & GRAND JAM turns the courthouse lawn into a pickin' park with impromptu jam sessions, concerts, arts and crafts vendors, food, workshops, and more. Bring a folding chair; leave the alcohol and drugs at home. Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. *Courthouse Square and Old SPJST Dance Hall, Fayetteville, 979/378-2753. Free.* www.texaspickinpark.com.
TEXAS SANDFEST attracts 27 professional sand sculptors and more than 200 amateurs for the largest beach-art party in America that includes sand-castle-making lessons and live music. Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. *Beach Marker 10, Port Aransas, 361/749-6674.* www.sandfest.com.
BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL starts the day with a butterfly release at 10am and then presents a butterfly art show, music, live theatre, and children's activities. Sat., April 19, 10am-3:30pm. *EmilyAnn Theatre, Wimberley, 512/847-6969.* www.emilyann.org.
★ **EARTH DAY AT TRINITY RIVER** is a great time to explore the lakes and ponds with canoeing, kayaking, and boating tours; bird and butterfly viewing; walking tours of the levee; and fishing lessons for the kids. Sat., April 19, 11am-2pm. *Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, Liberty, 936/336-9786.* www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/trinityriver.
LYRIDS METEOR SHOWER isn't one of the most spectacular of the annual meteor showers, but it is the oldest in recorded history. Chinese records from 687BC describe it as “stars that fell [like] rain.” Peaks on Tue., April 22, 3am-dawn. www.stardate.org/nightsky/meteors.

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PLAYING THROUGH

BY THOMAS HACKETT

Track meets are a low-key three-ring circus. With two or three events happening simultaneously, they're always yielding moments of serendipitous amazement for the casual fan.

It was like that a couple of weeks ago at the Texas Relays here in Austin, at Mike A. Myers Track & Soccer Stadium. Late on the fourth day of competition, most people in the stands were waiting for the men's mile and the men's 4x400-meter relay. In the mile, we'd get to see **Leo Manzano**, the Longhorn senior, NCAA champion, and likely member of the U.S. Olympic team. In interviews, Manzano says absolutely nothing interesting. Fortunately, he makes up for that on the track, where he is a fiery racer (he ran a 3 minute, 56 second mile). In the relay, there would be 36 guys running the four legs but only one of serious interest – 2004 Olympic gold medalist **Jeremy Wariner**, from Waco. With the wraparound sunglasses, Wariner has an appealingly cocky aura, but the thing that leaves you agog is mostly this: He's white, and white guys aren't supposed to run this fast.

Anyway, interviewing some runner while waiting for those races, I glanced over at the track a lap into the high school girls' 1,600-meter run. And then I did a genuine double take. Mind you, it was early in the race. You expect to see the runners in a tight clutch, and they were. All except **Chelsey Sveinsson**, already 20 yards ahead of the pack.

I'm afraid I didn't politely excuse myself from the interview. I just walked away from the dude, mouth agape, mesmerized by a 15-year-old kid, competing for the Greenhill School, in Addison. It wasn't just that she was winning so decisively, though that was part of it, especially with the PA announcer exhorting the crowd to cheer her on to a meet record. It was the way she ran that took your breath away.

It was just so beautiful.

A race is a work of art, the great American distance runner **Steve Prefontaine** used to say, and that's what this was: an aesthetic experience of the very highest order. You felt transported. You felt changed. You felt that you were given a privileged glimpse into your own possibilities.

"I was like, 'ahhhhhhhh!'" Sveinsson tells me afterward, describing the high of posting a time of 4:44. "I was like, 'Okay, it's the last lap; I'm not going to miss the meet record by 0.2 seconds or whatever – I'm going to break it now.' And I did!"

That "ahhhhhhhh" seems to be Sveinsson's all-purpose expression for what it feels like to be Chelsey Sveinsson, chasing down Olympic dreams.

"Just the way she moves, the way she carries herself, she's just in a different place than other high school runners," says her coach, **Mike Krueger**, admitting he can't take the credit for that. "If you wanted to design an Olympic miler, this is what you would come up with."

Chelsey Sveinsson. Remember that name. You heard it here first.



Chelsey Sveinsson

Thursday 24

BUILDING A BETTER BUDGET Learn how to overcome debt and design a realistic spending/savings plan that will help you accomplish your short-, mid-, and long-term financial goals. 5:30-7pm. A+ Federal Credit Union, 6420 Hwy. 290 E., 421-2818. Free. www.aplusfcu.org.

HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON & GRADUATION Come see the participants of the Hispanic Austin Leadership program throw their mortarboards and dine with leaders and future leaders of the Hispanic community. 11:30am. Holiday Inn, 8901 Business Park Dr., 462-4304. \$40 (\$30, members). www.gahcc.org.

IDENTITY THEFT SEMINAR AND SHRED Learn how to avoid getting your identity stolen while you shred those "sensitive" documents. Don't worry; all that shredded paper will be recycled. 6pm. IBC Bank, 12625 N. I-35. Free. www.csidentity.com/ibc.

LEARN SOMETHING AWESOME in this laid-back workshop where you can absorb the skills of other Austinites. Learn how to make a duct-tape dress, edit a documentary, or plan an event. Warning: Some skills may be more awesome than others. 7-10pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

MASSAGE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE includes sample classes, lunch, a chair massage, and application information for this school of muscle soothing. 10am-4pm. Lauterstein-Conway Massage School, 4701-B Burnet Rd., 374-9222 x14. Free. www.tlcschool.com.

NUTRITION CLASS Lose weight, and make some cash (if you're the biggest loser) with this 12-week course guiding people in the ways of losing inches. Register between now and May 15. The entry fee is split between charity and the pocket of the winner. First meeting is April 24, when the contestants will weigh in. South Austin Senior Activity Center, 3911 Manchaca, 891-5320. \$39.

The **U.S. Women** beat Canada in a penalty-kick shoot-out in the CONCACAF **Olympic Qualifying** final last weekend in Juárez, Mexico. With both finalists already qualified for Beijing, the U.S. played several youngsters and performed very well. Still, the draw broke up a couple of perfect records for the U.S.: They're now 27-0-1 all-time in CONCACAF competitions and 10-0-1 under first-year coach **Pia Sundhage**.

It was a good weekend for the DFW Metroplex at last weekend's **state high school** tournament, as McKinney Boyd, Lewisville Marcus, and Southlake Carroll all won state titles. (The other winner was El Paso Del Valle in boys 4A, their second title in three years.) It was the third title in four years for Marcus; even more impressively, three different McKinney high schools have won the girls 4A title in the last four years.

Just two weeks until the **Austin Aztex** kick off their inaugural season in the USL Premier Development League. They played their first exhibition game this past weekend, beating St. Edward's University, 2-1. Three more exhibitions are planned for the next couple of weeks: The times and locations are "secret" but not very much so; if you want to catch one, look for hints online.

Meanwhile, the European season builds to a climax; notably, **Champions League** semifinals are April 22-23, live on ESPN2: **Liverpool vs. Chelsea**, Tuesday, 1:30pm; **Barcelona vs. Manchester United**, Wednesday, 1:30pm. – Nick Barbaro

Sports BY MARK FAGAN

THE MAIN EVENT

AUSTIN TOROS The Toros earned a first-round playoff bye and will face either Sioux Falls or Dakota in the second round. For more, see austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. Sioux Falls/Dakota: Sat., April 19, 7pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. \$8-23. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN WRANGLERS The O-3 Wranglers look to pick up their first W. Vs. Rio Grande Valley: Sun., April 20, 3pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$18-125. www.austinwranglers.com.

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS For more on the Express, see austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. Memphis: Sat., April 19, 7:05pm; Sun., April 20, 2:05pm; Mon.-Tue., April 21-22, 7:05pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 512/255-2255. \$6-12. www.roundrockexpress.com.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Texas Tech: Thu., April 17, 6:30pm. Vs. Missouri: Sat., April 19, 1pm; Sun., April 20, noon. McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. **Baseball** Vs. Oklahoma State: Fri., April 18, 6pm; Sat., April 19, 2pm; Sun., April 20, 1pm. Vs. UT-San Antonio: Wed., April 23, 6:05pm. Disch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK. **Women's Tennis** Vs. Baylor: Sat., April 19, noon. Vs. Texas Tech: Sun., April 20, noon. Pennick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity. **Men's Tennis** Vs. Texas A&M: Sat., April 19, 4pm. Pennick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity. **Track & Field** Texas Twilight: Sat., April 19, all day. Mike A. Myers Stadium, 707 Manor Rd. www.texassports.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. Schreiner: Fri., April 18, 7pm; Sat., April 19, 1pm (doubleheader). **Softball** Vs. University of Dallas: Sat., April 19, 1pm (doubleheader). Vs. Howard Payne: Thu., April 24, 5pm (doubleheader). athletics.concordia.edu.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. UT-Permian Basin: Fri.-Sat, April 18-19, noon. Vs. Angelo State: Tue., April 22, 2pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

RECREATION & FITNESS

THE AUSTIN BACKGAMMON CLUB meets weekly and features a backgammon chouette table for those interested in that style of play. Mondays, 7pm. Doubletree Hotel Lounge, 6505 N. I-35 (turn on Camino La Costa), 913-3361. \$10.

TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK Open to women of all ages interested in outdoor activities. Fishing, kayaking, camping, hiking, and more! No experience required. **Kevin Connally** will talk about the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve. Tue., April 22, 6-8pm. LCRA Bldg., 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. www.townaustin.org.

OIL WRESTLING While oil wrestling isn't exactly a sport, this slippery fundraiser will benefit the **Austin Valkyries** rugby club. Aside from gawking at the athletic ladies getting their wrasslin' on, attendees can purchase some rugby merch, too. Thu., April 24, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$7. www.austinvalkyries.com.

AUSTIN MANAGEMENT SOCIETY GOLF TOURNEY Players will enjoy a round of golf and an opportunity to bid on silent-auction items with the funds going toward the organization's scholarship programs benefiting local students. Fri., April 18, 1:30pm. Shadowglen Golf Club, 12801 Lexington, Manor, 512/784-8968. \$70 (\$60 for AMS members). www.shadowglen golf.com.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

UT COLLEGES RELAY FOR LIFE Teams of 10 to 15 people will take turns on the track throughout the night and raise money through donations and the sale of luminarias to be donated for cancer research. Fri., April 18, 8pm to Sat., April 19, 8am. McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine. www.utcollegesagainstcancer.org.

FUN FUN SOBER RUN All money raised will benefit the **UT-Center for Students in Recovery**. Aside from the usual runners, joggers, and walkers, children and baby-strolling joggers are welcome, too. Sat., April 19, 10am. UT campus, San Jacinto & 23rd, 475-8352. \$20 (\$10 per person for groups of 10 or more). www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/csr.

WALK WITH US TO CURE LUPUS 5K is being held to raise awareness and funds to help find a cure for lupus. Sat., April 19, 9am. Old Settler's Park, Lakeview Pavilion, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 972/385-0065. Free. www.lupusresearch.org.

RUN WITH THE HEROES 5K The **100 Club of Central Texas** is an organization that provides "financial, legal and emotional support to families of first responders who are killed in the line of duty" and are the worthy beneficiaries of the funds raised from this 5K run/walk. Sun., April 20, 8am. Southpark Meadows Shopping Mall, South I-35 & Slaughter, 345-3200. www.100clubcentex.com.

KINDERSCHUHE 5K RUN/WALK will benefit **SAFEhaven Communités in Schools**. Sat., April 19, 8:30am. Landa Park, 164 Landa Park Dr., New Braunfels, 830/708-2991. www.nbrunclub.com.

UT RUNNING OF THE HORNS 5K Money raised will benefit the **Volunteer Services and Learning Center's Project 2009**. Sun., April 20, 8am. UT campus, San Jacinto & 23rd, 281/387-9156. \$20 (\$12, kids 12 and under). www.runningofthehorns.com.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF GEORGETOWN Several teams will camp out at the school overnight with members of each team running/walking the track at all times to remember cancer survivors and victims and raise money for the **American Cancer Society**. Sat., April 19, 6pm. Forbes Middle School, Georgetown, 966-1464.

LEANDER HIGH FIVE PROJECT GRAD FUN RUN All money raised will go to the **Leander High School Project Graduation Fund**. Sat., April 19, 9am. Leander High School, Leander, 512/435-8186.

RRISD PROJECT GRAD 5K & KIDS K This event will benefit all four of the Round Rock ISD graduating senior classes of 2008. Kids K gets started at 10am. Sun., April 20, 9am. Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/274-3774. \$20 for 5K (\$25, day of race), no cost for Kids K. projectgrad5k@yahoo.com, www.sphsprojectgrad.com.

Soccer WATCH

☼ **TEXAS SOLAR FORUM** CEOs, policy-makers, and other bigwigs gather to discuss the increasing viability of solar energy. Let's get on the bandwagon now before the money and the planet dry up. For more information and to register to attend, go to www.texassolarforum.com. *Thu.-Fri., April 24-25. Capitol building. Free.*

UNDERAGE DRINKING PREVENTION TASK FORCE Donald Moseman of the National Safety Council will speak of his agency's efforts to combat underage drinking. Learn about the Alive at 25 program and more. *Thu., April 24, 10:30am-1pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 854-4229.*

EXPRESSIONS OF DYSLLEXIA ART EXHIBITION (See Thursday 4/17.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Salvage Vanguard Theater

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm
Super High Me @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
Two Days in April @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Keep Austin Pagan *Ruta Maya*

the GAY place BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

ALL IS ABLOOM 'Tis spring, so thus, **aGLIFF's**, ahem, "Planting Seeds to Grow the Film Community," with none other than their third annual fundraiser, **BLOOM**, tonight to insure a helluva 21st year bringing great queer programming to the ATX. Raffle, mingle, delight yourself. Vin some Vespas. Believe us, 'tis the season. *Thu., April 17, 6-10pm. AMLI Downtown Apartment Building, 201 Lavaca, 472-1711. \$30 (\$25, members). www.agliff.org.*

☼ **STATE OF THE STATE** Join **Equality Texas** and a slew of high-profile progressive Texas movers & shakers at this confab of queer issues and the law. Panels topics include: **Domestic Partner Benefits, Non-Discrimination Policy, Safe Schools, Relationship Protection, Foster Care & Adoption, Pride in Faith, Hate Crimes, Transgender Issues & Policy, Civic Activism**, and more. Advanced registration is required. *Sat., April 19, 9am-4:30pm. Texas state Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400. Free. info@equalitytexas.org, www.eqfed.org/eqtx.*

THIS IS AWARENESS It's Monday, and we're off. **UT's Awareness Week**, some evolved programming aimed at the queer community on campus. This year's theme is **Live Out Loud**, and panels and discussions like these will help make it so. And on Saturday join the **Queer Student Alliance** for their annual **Queer Texas Conference**, a day of celebrated keynote speakers, including potential Austin City Councilperson **Randi Shade** and activist **Mara Keisling**. *April 21-26. UT campus, 232-1831. gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu.*

FRIENDS' FEST Lots of tunes. Lots of tarts. Out in the woods. With flush toilets. Pack some TP just in case. *Thu.-Mon., April 17-21. Recreation Plantation, 3550 Pursley Rd., Dripping Springs, 512/894-0567. \$100 or \$25 day pass. www.friendsfest.com, www.myspace.com/recreationplantation.*

PRIDE TEXAS! Volunteers and sponsors of all stripes needed. The big news? The **Pride Festival** and the **Pride Parade** will both happen on the same day, one after the other. Oh, and the fest will feature national headlines **Me'shell Ndegéocello** and **Pansy Division**. *Sat., June 14, noon. Auditorium Shores, South First at Town Lake, 474-5475, 474-4422. \$10 in advance; \$15 at the gate. info@austinprideparade.org, marianne@equalitytexas.org, www.pridetexas.org, www.austinprideparade.org.*

HOT STEPPERS ... OR AT LEAST, HOT EATERS We have faith that some day these kids will eventually get it out on the floor. But for now, come help decide what this LGBT salsa dancing group will do next at their **Open Planning & Organizing Meeting** at the end of the month. *Sun., April 27, 5pm. Mama Fu's Asian House, 4615 N. Lamar, austingaysalsa@yahoo.com, groups.yahoo.com/group/austinlgbtsalsa, www.myspace.com/austinlgbtsalsa.*

NOW, THAT'S DANCE MUSIC

It's not a big deal, really, except that it's the beginning of your weekend and you really want to dance. You picked up this *Chronicle*, flipped to the queer bits, praying to that rainbow ceiling cat in the sky, for a place to really cut a carpet to shreds this week. So, yes, my million tiny Jesuses, **Gold** is here. A night of the dance with **DJ Orion**, **Franco B**, **Yadira**, and **NBD**, just a let-loose-and-feel-it kinda lineup, friends who will play together and mix and improv and set-list and send you to the bar for more cold, cold drinks. But, baby bears, this here's a fire you'll never squelch. *Thu., April 17, 9pm. Beauty Bar, 617 E. Seventh, 391-1943. www.myspace.com/oriongarcia, www.myspace.com/nbd4dayz, www.myspace.com/itsfrancob, www.myspace.com/yadira.*



NBD: See dis betch in dat band

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date.

The deadline for the May 2 issue is Monday, April 21. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place):
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports):
gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

James Renovitch (everything else):
calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

HILL COUNTRY VOLUNTEERS It's a ride not a race, and it's one of the most fun AIDS fundraisers of the year. But it needs help to keep it running so smoothly. Volunteers help fuel up pit stops, keep riders aware of road hazards, and even get a dinner out of it. So, let the folks at **Out Youth** know if you'd like to help out this year. *Sun., April 26. 419-1233. matt@outyouth.org, www.outyouth.org.*

GRRRRRL, HOWDY Resurrecting the **riot grrrl** movement with a night of thrashing music, fashion with passion, art hanging, and cheap drink specials so dirt penny pocket that it'll make you feel like yer back when the movement began. Music brought to you by **DJ Harmoni**. *Fri., April 18, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979.*

A LOVE PLAY ABOUT A HATE CRIME The kids from **Different Stages** break on into their '08 with **Stop Kiss**, a play by **Diana Son**. It's funny, head-scratching, and evocative, exploring what we assume about love and what we can never learn to assume from love. *Through May 3. Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages.*

WHAT'S THAT HILL COUNTRY RIDE? Bike-curious? Learn more about the ride while taking in an enjoyable chair massage. Relaxation and information. How novel, l'queers. *Sat., April 19, 3-7pm. Top Drawer Thrift Shop, 4902 Burnet Rd., 454-5161. www.hillcountryride.org.*

ARTEROTICA! This is the sexiest fundraiser ever, raising money for **AIDS Services of Austin's Paul Kirby Fund**. Sassy treats, boozey sweets, models showing their neats, and, of course, erotic art. Artists who donated artwork/merch to this year's event include porn icon **Annie Sprinkle**, fetish photographer **Philip Warner**, **Debora Iyall** (of Eighties band Romeo Void), **Jackie Beat**, **Lee Vanderpool**, **Ben Aqua**, and more more more! Stop. Don't stop. Raise more than just money, studs. *Sat., April 19, 9pm-12mid. Action Figure, 3000 E. Cesar Chavez. \$35, advance; \$50, door. www.octopusclub.org.*

TUESDAYS TOGETHER This last-Tuesday-of-every-month event for **Human Rights Campaign** happens at a variety of locations. This month, get all ratpacky with the gang at Downtown's ginchiest digs. *The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 289-2198. info@hrcaustin.org, www.hrc.org/austin.*

CONTINENTAL NEIGHBORS It's their first time rocking this SoCo hot spot, but it doesn't mean these kids need any instruction. They know just what to do. **Darling New Neighbors** rip it open, the **Horsies** keep it that way, and then **Pong** comes to show what a tradition looks like. It's an Austin coming out party for local legends. *Fri., April 25, 9pm. Continental Club, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444. www.darlingnewneighbors.com.*

SAYING NOTHING AT ALL In a very peaceful protest to be held all day long, all over this country, students everywhere will take a vow of silence, calling for an end to the bullying and harassment of GLBT students. **Out Youth** helps co-sponsor an end to that silence, a rally on the south steps of our Capitol, with an open microphone for youth to share their experiences and stories. Solidarity, brothers and sisters. *Fri., April 25. Texas state Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400.*

COCKPIT ROCK IT Don't be afraid of the Cock. Girls, just call it CP's, because this night is for you. Well, it's **Club Inclusive**, so everyone's invited. Come early, and get into **Julie Nolen** (of Telling Stories) on a patio for pups and pub grub: buck burgers and drafts, with a **Getty** bartender. Indeed. Your dance moves will prove the pudding. *Pop. Wednesdays, 9pm. The Cockpit Club, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010. www.myspace.com/tellingstories.*

GLBTSA DAY OF SILENCE PANEL The "SA" stands for "straight alliance," so everyone is truly welcome to this discussion at St. Ed's to commemorate the **National Day of Silence**. What'd ya think they were going to do? Sit there and look at one another? *Thu., April 24, 7pm. St. Edward's, 3001 S. Congress, Ragsdale Center, 830/822-4961. Free. dsalaza4@stedwards.edu.*

Ongoing Events

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS

There's a way for just about everyone to participate in this life-saving fundraiser, regardless of age or skill level. Adults and kids 8 years old and up may choose the 10-, 50-, or 70-mile bike routes (all known for their beautiful scenery), while kids ages 4-12 can participate in the Kids Safari Adventure featuring pit-stop games and challenges. All funds raised will provide food, housing, school supplies, and medication for AIDS orphans in Africa. Fundraising requirement: \$500 (\$250 for kids). See www.hillcountryride.org for info on registration and upcoming training rides. *Sat., April 26, 8:30am. Krause Springs, 512/371-RIDE. Registration: \$55 (\$25-35, kids).*

CALL FOR PHOTOS & SILENT AUCTION Interested in donating photos to benefit *Latinitas*, a digital magazine for young latinas? If so, you should e-mail latinitasfoto@yahoo.com for more details. If not, perhaps the silent auction on said art (*Wed., April 23, 6-9pm*) would be more to your liking. *Copa Bar & Grill, 217 Congress, 322-9947. Free. www.latinitasmagazine.org.*

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUMS feature council wannabes talking to one another and you all this week and beyond. Topics range from arts funding to ethics. For more on the forums including dates and locations, see "Upcoming Candidate Forums," p.22.

☼ **HABITAT STEWARDS TRAINING** Learn how local landscaping affects wildlife, and teach others how to make their yards animal-friendly. All classes must be attended, and community service is necessary. *Registration ends April 23. Contact alice.nance@ci.austin.tx.us to register. 327-8181 x29. \$40. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/wildlifehabitat.htm.*

FINANCIAL FITNESS WEEK is really more like a week and change of classes and workshops to improve your financial IQ. Classes for elementary school children and the elderly alike, so get that money out from under the mattress. Check their website for a schedule as many events are free and open to the public. *April 17-27. 854-9600. www.financialfitnessaustin.org.*

☼ **GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP** Keep Texas Beautiful is doing its part for this nationwide initiative giving free supplies to participating organizations. Call or go to www.ktb.org/programs/gac, and ask what you can do. Or even recommend a cleanup event and help keep our city, state, and country beautiful. *Through May 31. 800/CLEAN-TX.*

DONATION REQUEST FOR ARCH Serving 400 homeless a day, the soap desk at the ARCH is in need of all manner of toiletries (feminine-hygiene products, disposable razors, etc.). Check their website or call for specific items. *ARCH, 500 E. Seventh, 305-4174. www.frontsteps.org.*

☼ **LIFECYCLE BUILDING CHALLENGE** A contest for architects, designers, and students, LBC2 is looking for the next big thing in green design. Go to www.lifecyclebuilding.org for registration info and other details. Deadline for registration is June 18.

THIS WEEK ONLY

CADILLAC PRIMAVERA FASHION WEEKEND Live mannequin modeling, beauty demonstrations, and fashion presentations occur throughout the event (*April 17-20*). Macy's and Barton Creek Square Mall step up the festivities with a proper fashion show on *Fri., April 18, at 7:30pm*. Not to be outdone, Simon Fashion Now has activities for the fashionable ones from *noon to 5:30pm on Sat., April 19*. Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-7040. *Free.*

CHIROPRACTIC EXAM BENEFIT FOR ARC OF TEXAS Make an appointment, bring household items for the Arc of Texas, and get ready for some spine cracking. *Mon.-Fri., April 21-25. Lone Star Chiropractic, 2438 W. Anderson Ste. A-2, 377-2663. www.thearcoftexas.org.*

☼ **COATS FOR CUBS** is accepting real fur – be it a coat, trim, or other type of clothing – to be used as bedding for orphaned or injured wildlife. From now till Earth Day (*April 22*), you may drop off your furs at Buffalo Exchange (just tell them it's for Coats for Cubs). *Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925. www.humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs.*

DRIPPING SPRINGS FOUNDERS DAY FESTIVAL Activities abound during this annual event, including a parade, carnival, cook-offs, music, children's activities, and a chicken-clucking contest. Check the website for a schedule of events. *Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. Downtown Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, 512/858-4725. Free. www.foundersdayfestival.com.*

☼ **GREEN LIVING EXPO** Everyone's abuzz about going green; here's how you can turn that buzz into action: This three-day event will cover organic gardening, green building, alternative fuels, and everything in between. Will Wynn will be there (of course), but Kevin O'Connor of *This Old House* shows Wynn just how handsome a green celebrity can be. *Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. \$8 (under 16 free). www.showtechnology.com/shows/Austin_GreenLiving/AustinGreen.html.*

INTERNATIONAL GEM & JEWELRY SHOW features 80 exhibitors ready to hock their gems, beads, stones, settings, gold, etc. *Fri.-Sun., April 18-20. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 301/294-1640. \$7. www.intergem.com.*

OLD SETTLER'S MUSIC FESTIVAL This annual four-day celebration of Americana roots music features workshops, arts and crafts, youth talent competitions, and more, in addition to the dozens of bands that perform (which this year include the Waybacks, Eliza Gilkyson, Bettye LaVette, and Todd Snider, among others). You can camp out the whole time, or just join in for a day. *Thu.-Sun., April 17-20. Salt Lick Pavilion & Camp Ben McCulloch. \$12-450. www.oldsettlersmusicfest.org.*

WEIGH GOOD DONATION DRIVE hopes to collect 725,000 pounds of donated goods April 17-20. By Goodwill's logic, that amount of stuff equals 42 individuals competitively employed, so get that old safe or cast-iron sofa to the thriftery. *All local Goodwill locations, 637-7153. www.austingoodwill.org.*

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar online*: austinchronicle.com. Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

On the Town

Mary Moody Northern Theatre, through April 20
Running time: 2 hr, 10 min

The clock is running from the minute the curtain rises on this 1944 musical comedy. Its heroes – three best-buddy sailors on shore leave – have just 24 hours to take in all the wonders that New York City has to offer, and they’re dead-set on seeing them *all*. So at the chiming of six bells, these fresh-faced servicemen, spick-and-span in their navy whites, bound onto the stage and musically proclaim: “New York, New York! A helluva town!” It’s a joyful jolt of theatrical energy – really, is there a more exuberant entrance in the American musical theatre? – that sets the tempo for the show’s race against time.

And when it’s sold the way it is by David Gallagher, Daniel Adams, and Clay Cartland in the Mary Moody Northern Theatre production, with such youthful verve and heartland sincerity in their shining, open faces, you totally buy their naive notion that they not only can cover all of the Big Apple’s 20,000 streets in one spin of the earth but that, out of the city’s 2.5 million inhabitants, they can track down one particular female: the fetching Miss Turnstiles for June, whose photograph on a subway poster has captured the heart of one of them. (Of course, this being a musical, the moonstruck sailor is united with his lady love before the day is out – heck, before the sun even hits high noon – and not only that, but his two compadres each get hitched to his own Manhattan hottie.) With their high spirits, drive, and lively interplay, the three male leads – all St. Edward’s University seniors, mak-

ing their farewell appearances on the MMNT stage – lead the way in making this a peppy peach of a show, a real swell treat.

As staged by Ev Lunning Jr., *On the Town* proves a good fit for St. Edward’s. It’s no surprise to find the student performers in sync with the rhythms and drives of the young characters, but they also snap to the irreverent wit in the lines by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. As she puts the moves on Adams’ doesn’t-stand-a-chance Chip, Libby Dees reels off the come-ons and comebacks of Hildy the hack with such speed and sass that you almost hear a whip cracking. Their chemistry is the sharpest of the three couples and the most fun to watch, but there’s a sense of camaraderie throughout the entire group that imbues the ensemble number “Ya Got Me” with a genuine sense of companionship and loyalty. And the playfulness that enlivens that number extends throughout the company, whether they’re executing Robin Lewis’ animated dance steps, playing a nightclub scene, or just briskly crossing the stage as hurried New York pedestrians. They’re in tune with the times and with that ticking clock.

Toward the end of the play, the characters see their day drawing to a close and realize that their romances won’t have time to blossom. It leads into the lovely ballad “Some Other Time,” delivered with a wistful ache by Dees, Adams, Cartland, and Kate Young. Listening to them sing so poignantly – perhaps the finest of many fine moments musical-directed by Michael McKelvey – the thought comes that these young performers are coming to the close of their college days and will soon be separating just as these lovers are. There will be a new crop of students taking their place, just as there are new sailors coming off the ship as Gabey, Chip, and Ozzie go back on it, but the clock is running for us all. Best to seize the day and relish it.

– Robert Faires



Theatre

OPENING

ROBERT JOHNSON: TRICK THE DEVIL The last days of Robert Johnson, near-mythic Delta bluesman, are brought to life in this collaboration between ACC and the ProArts Collective, directed by Marcus McQuirter from a script by Bill Harris. *April 17-27. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Rollins Theater, Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800. \$12 (\$10, students). www.thelongcenter.org.*

LUNCH HOUR Jean Kerr’s screwball comedy about two married couples and their revealed shenanigans at a beach house in the Hamptons is directed by Jonathan Urso for the Onstage Theatre Company. *April 17-May 4. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 257-9832. \$10-30. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

THE WIZARD OF OZ Not the same production as the one currently at the Paramount, this one’s performed by students at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. *April 17-19. Thu., 1pm; Fri., 7pm (audio described); Sat., 7pm. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 454-8631. Free. www.tsbvi.edu.*

NO ONE ELSE IN THE WOODS TONIGHT is Rebecca Wadlinger’s drama about a young, polio-stricken woman inside an iron lung. The Humdrum Collective, under the direction of Erin Meyer, uses a variety of theatrical methods – music, shadow, and expressive movement among them – to depict the woman’s interior life and the reality of this country’s polio epidemic in the 1950s. *April 17-26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12 (\$10, students, seniors; pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.humdrumcollective.org.*

THE DICK MONOLOGUES The irrepressible Spike Gillespie presents this popular monthly show about, well, about *tallywhackers*, *quimstuffs*, *john-*

thomases, *third legs*, *manroots*, *tubesteaks*, *trouser snakes*, *empurpled powerpoles*, and so on, yes, as conjured in reminiscences and stories (and maybe even songs) by the likes of Sarah Barnes, Sarah Bird, Robin Chotzinoff, Buffy Cram, Marrit Ingman, Southpaw Jones, Kristine Kovach, Laura Lane, Rudy Ramirez, Jaycee Wilemon, and others. Recommended ... unless you’re a real dick. *Wed., April 23, 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$12. www.dickmonologues.com.*

UT NEW THEATRE features new one-act works by Soo-Jin Lee, Robert Sanchez, and Erica Saleh. *April 18-26. Fri.-Sun., 8pm. Lab Theatre, Winship Bldg., 23rd & San Jacinto. Free. www.finearts.utexas.edu.*

SPEED THE PLOW David Mamet’s fierce and fast-talking comedy casts a gimlet eye at the ethics (or lack thereof) of a pair of slick Hollywood execs. These showbiz sharks are well-played (we easily assume; we’ve seen what they can do) by Ben Wolfe and Ken Bradley, under the direction of Michael Stuart and Lara Toner for Austin Playhouse. *April 18-May 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (half-price for students). www.austinpplayhouse.com.*

SUNDAY DINNER Sammye Kaye’s one-woman show depicts the effects of sexual abuse within the family. *Sat., April 19, 2-4pm. Mitchie’s Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. Free. www.mitchie.com.*

FLOODLINES Jaclyn Pryor’s annual and brilliant artistic invasion of Hyde Park involves the coordination of many performers, installations, and surprising locations along the streets and across the lawns of this Central Austin community. It’s a one-day-only event, it’ll be talked about for years, and only 30 people will get to see it in full. Will you be among them? Or just wandering the streets, unguided, and seeing what you can see? Tickets must be purchased in advance. See website for details. *Sun., April 20, 2pm. The journey begins at: Eastwoods Park, 3001 Harris Park Ave. \$30. www.jaclynpryor.com/draft/support.htm.*

BACKYARD STORY Out at Texas State in San Marcos, they’ve got this clever drama set among the arthropodal and mammalian inhabitants of a backyard. A valiant spider and an intrepid fly teaming up to defeat a bat? A show for the whole family to enjoy, written and directed by Charles Pascoe. *April 22-27. Tue.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mainstage University Theatre, 430 Moon, San Marcos. 512/245-2204. \$5. www.txstate.edu.*

REFRACTION ARTS: FUSEBOX 2008 Ron Berry and his Refraction Arts people are doing for live theatre, it seems, what South by Southwest does for music and film and Web stuff: bringing in groups and troupes and artists from beyond the Texas borders, from across these United States and over the Big Pond, to join with fierce locals in presenting, in venues all over this city, live theatre and dance and media-enhanced variations on the performative arts. (*They’ve got a bit of excellent film and music, too.*) Fusebox used to be rather big – now it’s getting huge – and, as always, it boasts a diverse slate of performances and panels and exhibitions sure to provide much unique entertainment and food for thought. This is also one of those rare, multipartite mega-events that spur our Arts Editor Robert Faires to publish a complete schedule in his front-of-the-*Chronicle* section (coming next issue), but here’s what’s happening on the upcoming Thursday (*April 24*) that kicks the whole thing off:

Graham Reynolds: String Quintet Premiere features the newest music from the Golden Arm Trio’s maestro, performed live and surrounded by the wonders of Trenton Doyle Hancock’s *Cult of Color: Call to Color* renderings. *7pm. Arthouse, 700 Congress. Free.*

Nothing Lasts Forever The power dance trio **Little Stolen Moments** performs three new pieces created with artist **Yoon Cho**, in conjunction with Cho’s latest photography/video exhibition. *7pm. Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca. Free.*

Poutine Never Sleeps Hella hectic streetwise bash, here, with big video art and animation from the Great White North, live DJs, combustible dance

moves from B-Boy City and nine artists from Montreal, graffiti all wild style and sizzling your eye bones like gravy on a griddle. *7-10pm. Gallery Lombardi, 602-A W. Seventh. Free.*

Five in the Morning London’s acclaimed **Rotozazza** theatre company presents this unsettling and unforgettable performance, in which “three shivering swimmers follow orders from a series of chillingly calm disembodied voices.” *8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. \$10-25.*

Fusebox Festival: *April 24-May 3. Various locations all over town. www.refractionarts.org/fusebox.*

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: NUMBER 2 Michael Holland & Karen Mack, the New York duo often dubbed the “anti-cabaret,” create musical mayhem with their blend of song, medley, and comedy as they showcase songs that made it to No. 2 (but never No. 1) on the *Billboard* charts. *Thu.-Fri., April 24-25, 8:30pm. Mansion at Judges’ Hill, 1900 Rio Grande, 453-2287. \$39. www.austincabaret.org.*

CLOSING

ASSASSINS Thirteen people have tried to kill the U.S. president during our country’s brief history; four of them have succeeded. Using a revue format – with a series of vignettes, sketches, and ballads – their stories are explored in this play by Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman, directed by Rod Caspers for UT’s Department of Theatre & Dance. (See review, p.90.) *April 17-20. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Payne Theatre, 23rd & San Jacinto. 477-6060. \$10-16. www.finearts.utexas.edu/tad.*

ON THE TOWN This classic 1944 musical (by Leonard Bernstein, Betty Comden, and Adolph Green) tells the tale of three sailors on 24-hour shore leave in Manhattan. Song, dance, almost Pynchonesque antics! Directed by Ev Lunning Jr. *Through April 20. Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward’s University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$15 (\$10-12, in advance).*

bay 6 gallery & studios
PRESENTS ... **tricycle**
an introduction to studio artist
and launch party for bay 6 gallery
WITH MUSIC BY Mediums at 8
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THE GAY PLACE ON THE TRANSMAN
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CHRONIC

"I am **still** recovering from Emma Thompson appearing in that **Schwarzenegger** stinker **Junior**."
- Kate X Messer

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CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB
The 2008 Funniest Person in Austin Contest continues Monday, April 21st!
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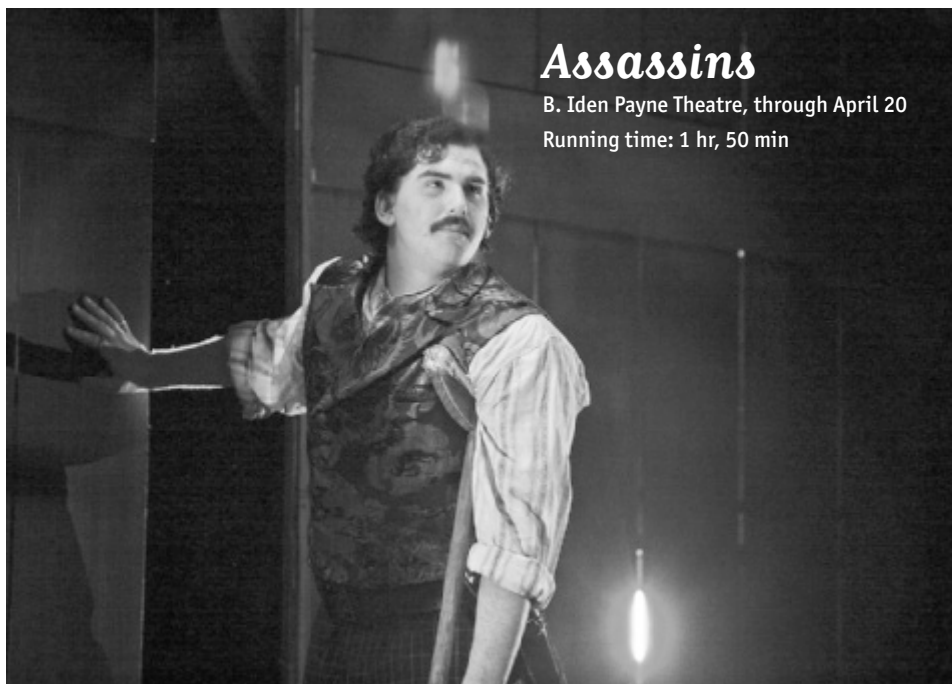
Robert Johnson: Trick the Devil
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Assassins

B. Iden Payne Theatre, through April 20

Running time: 1 hr, 50 min



You cannot murder a president, John Wilkes Booth smartly tells a depressed Lee Harvey Oswald. Presidents, as it were, can only be assassinated. Murder is savage, base, sadistic, unthinkable to a civilized person. But in an assassination, there's power, there's transformation, and there's fulfillment and purpose. At least that's what Booth and Stephen Sondheim would have you believe in *Assassins*, the first production by the University of Texas Department of Theatre & Dance's Musical Theatre Pilot Project.

Of the four successful assassins of American presidents, how many can you name? Of their five would-be brethren? Our current culture has forever

dramatized John Wilkes Booth and his derringer, Lee Harvey Oswald and his rifle (conspiracies aside), but the rest has been gobbled up in our history books by words like "assassinated" or "attempt." Composer-lyricist Sondheim and book writer John Weidman make the antagonists of American history into the musical's protagonists. These characters struggle with money, politics, and lost loves; they bicker with one another; and they all have some beef with this thing called the American dream.

But *Assassins* does not unabashedly throw itself behind these triggermen. They are countered by the balladeers, a denim-clad trio that sweetly sings the praises of all the potential and possibility that exists in America. For all their major key resolutions and positive messages, though, there is something of a false timbre in their affirmations in light of the humanized assassins' struggles. But do we truly want to side with a pack of deranged and depressed murderers? When the assassins angrily chase the balladeers off the stage during the singing of "Another National Anthem," it's not entirely certain which group we should be sympathizing with. *Assassins* is more a questioning of than an indictment of our culture, and during this contemplation, the audience is treated to its fair share of jokes, songs, and pageantry.

The Department of Theatre & Dance certainly cares about its Musical Theatre Pilot Project, because it has invested heavily in its production of *Assassins*. This is a beautiful, beautiful show. Sarah Rae Davidson's set has the feel of an abandoned carnival; while the flashing lights and red, white, and blue bull's-eyes create a festive, patriotic atmosphere, there's something industrial about the rusted scaffolding and ladders the actors climb about. Just as *Assassins'* plot plays back and forth between differing concepts of the American dream, so too does the stage transform from a bright, flag-waving affair to the tragically lone figure of Santa-suit-wearing Sam Byck sitting on a bench, mouthing off. Somber or ominous moments find the stage backlit by lighting designer Will C. Sutliff in a brilliantly deep blood red.

From the constant onlookers to the video-screen graphics to the ever-present austerity of Christopher Skillern's John Wilkes Booth, director Rod Caspers' production constantly finds the stage flush with interesting images without losing focus. An electric chair is ushered on; a gaggle of chatty bystanders comes and goes; Zachary Ullah's Charles Guiteau dances toward his noose, anon. And Jennifer Madison's costume design adds to *Assassins'* dazzling appearance with some gorgeous pieces: As Booth, Skillern looks stunning in a leather overcoat topping a rose-patterned vest, and the bystanders, all dressed in white, still manage to invoke a century's worth of fashion.

Assassins asks more about our culture and our humanity than it does of our politics, but it never gets bogged down in its message. UT's production is a visual treat with Sondheim's well-composed music well performed by the cast and orchestra and plenty of fun moments. If all of the Musical Theatre Pilot Project's shows are this successful, we hope the program will keep on flying well into the future.

— Avimaan Syam

ONGOING

TRIOLUS AND CRESSIDA Japhy Fernandes directs this Shakespeare play "in all its sci-fi comic book glory." BYOB. *Through May 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Velvet Rut Theatre, 1612 E. Seventh. Donations accepted. 236-1092. www.myspace.com/thevelvetruttheatre.*

MATT & BEN Naughty Austin presents Kelley Estes and Breanna Stogner in this Hollywood-happy farce, written by Mindy Kaling and Brenda Withers, in which a certain pair of celebrity friends magically discover a screenplay to make a hit movie with. Tabloidable antics ensue. Directed by Blake Yelavich. *Through May 10. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$27 (\$20, students, seniors). www.naughtyaustin.com.*

BLITHE SPIRIT Noel Coward's guh-guh-ghostly comedy of romance and afterlife scheming envelopes the Austin Playhouse stage. With David Stahl, Lara Toner, Bernadette Nason, Janet Hurley Kimlicko, Tom Parker, Mary Agen Cox, and Rachel Dendy under the direction of Don Toner. *Through May 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$24-28 (half-price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE GLASS MENAGERIE Tennessee Williams' classic gets a staging out in Lockhart's Gaslight-Baker Theatre, under the direction of Todd Martin. *Through April 29. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sat., April 19, 2pm. Gaslight-Baker Theatre, 216 S. Main, Lockhart. \$10. www.gaslightbakertheatre.org.*

STOP KISS Different Stages presents Diana Son's bittersweet play about love, vulnerability, and risk between two women, directed by Karen Jambon. *Through May 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. www.main.org/diffstages.*

DOUBT It's nun vs. priest in this faith-rending power struggle from John Patrick Shanley (author of the film *Moonstruck*), directed for Zach Theatre by Steven Dietz, as an intense game of cat-and-mouse unfolds in a Bronx Catholic school in 1964. *Through May 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. www.zachscott.com.*

DINNER THEATRE

THE FALSETTOS Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players spoof a certain popular HBO series, in

a venue featuring Italian cuisine (appropriately enough) that lets you twirl your vermicelli (or divide your veal Parmesan or what-have-you) while trying to sleuth out the culprit of this interactive comedy — and the best detective in your crowd wins a prize. *Saturdays, through May 31. 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.capcitymystery.com.*

AUDITIONS

WHITE PEOPLE J.T. Rogers' drama will be directed by Charles P. Stites at City Theatre in June, and he's looking for a man (age 40-55) and a woman (age 25-35). Check the script online, if you wish, and bring a head shot and résumé. *Mon.-Tue., April 21-22, 7-9pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

DADDY'S DYIN', WHO'S GOT THE WILL? The Palace Theatre in Georgetown's readying this Del Shores comedy to be directed by David Gray. Prepare a two-minute monologue. E-mail for appointment; check website for details. *Sat., April 26, 1-4pm; Mon., April 28, 7-9pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

SBCT PLAYWRITING CONTEST Sam Bass Community Theatre is soliciting submissions of original full-length plays. Submissions will be reviewed by a committee of experienced SBCT directors. The six finalists will each receive a two-performance reading open to the public. The winning play will receive a fully mounted production during SBCT's 2008-09 season. Submissions must be previously unproduced to be considered. See their website for details; send your plays to: Frank Benge, PO Box 767, Round Rock, TX 78680. Deadline: May 31. www.sambassbakertheatre.org.

AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: THE BARD'S 444TH BIRTHDAY BASH Prithvi bring the whole family and celebrate the anniversary of Sweet William's birth — with cake, live music, and themed improv and presentations by professional actors and jackanapes at Richard Garriott's already fabled Curtain Theater. The *Chronicle's* own Robert Fairies is your master of ceremonies for this Shakesy shindig. *Wed., April 23, 6:30-8pm. Curtain Theater, City Park Road, just off 2222 & 360. \$15 (\$35 for a family of four). www.austinsakespeare.org.*

TEXARTS' NEW HEADQUARTERS: GRAND OPENING

The TexARTS Association for Visual and Performing Arts announces the official opening of its new home with an open house and gala benefit event. Dance studios, music studios, classrooms, a performance space: Quite the impressive facilities, now ready for you to give them an evaluative gander. **Open House** features a rotation of sample classes and demonstrations in theatre, ballroom dancing, and Pilates. *Sat., April 19, 1-4pm. Free. Gala Benefit Night* features performances by TexARTS students and some of Austin's favorite professionals, with catered hors d'oeuvres, wine, and Champagne. *Sat., April 19, 8-10:30pm. TexARTS HQ, in Lohman's Crossing Plaza at Hwy 620 and Lohman's Spur. \$75. www.tex-arts.org.*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Cap City Open Mic This gig ranges from "Who let these dipshits onstage?" to "Wow, this fucker is hilarious!" And, hey, it could be you up there, dear reader, slaying your friends and neighbors. *Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.*

Tracey Ashley This former luxury-ship cruise director may be the funniest damned thing going up in the Minneapolis Twin Cities, which is why the Capsters are bringing her on board for a weekend of sharp comedy here in A-town, with the effervescent **John Ramsey** opening. *April 17-19. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Vinnie Brand Don't trust your sense of humor to just any old purveyor of comedy, citizen. Instead, know that you can always rely on Vinnie Brand comedy for the smoothest of styles and plenty of rich, foaming lather. It's 99.44% pure! With **Brendon Walsh**. *April 22-26. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport. www.coldtowne.com.

Improv out the Wazoo Some of Austin's best stand-up and (especially) improv in this weekly mix: **Parallelogramphonograph** They're fast, they're funny, they're totally *kawaii*, and this week **The Starter Kit** and **Rubin** are performing

with them. *Thursday, 8pm. UpTowne* This is the Coldtowne sketch faction, where the spontaneous hijinx are tucked away and scripted cleverness takes the helm. You *know* you wanna see something take the helm tonight, don't you? The helm. Ah, the helm. *Thursday, 10pm. Hangin' With Mr. the P! Company* Yes, well, you have to see it to believe it. Improv, they say, and no tofu will be harmed in its making. *11:39pm. Proctor* will doctor your improv ills away as three separate ColdTowne troupes vie for their merit and adoration. *Friday, 8pm. That Other Paper presents Punchline.* The popular stand-up showcase continues. *Friday, 10pm. Stool Pigeon* features a mystery guest in a sort of modified Armando, thus jump-starting the shenanigans that ensue. *Saturday, 8pm. Cold, Cold Improv* The fabulous ColdTowne house troupe celebrates **Look Cookie's First Anniversary** this night. *Saturday, 10pm. Mod Party* Yes, that's exactly what it is. So: Are you a mod or a rocker? *11:30pm.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild The most popular troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, making already hot topics burn with a bright comic intensity, with the incredible and — *ai! ai! ai!* — spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu.-Fri, 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

Banana Puddin' Time Tom Booker, comedy impresario from L.A., has moved to Austin and is running this new show at Esther's Pool: a mixture of comedic sketches, improv, stand-up comedy, and silly songs. Austin's most entertaining talents are promised, and you'll get free banana pudding with each paid admission. *Thursdays, 9:30pm. \$9.95.*

The Late Night Skinny Dip Join the infamous Esther's Follies afterhours crew for a jam-packed hour of the sort of improv and sketch comedy that might be, oh, just a leeeetle too risqué for their regular audiences. (It's for ages 17 and older, to be sure.) *Saturdays, through April 26. 11:30pm. \$5.*

Visual Arts

EVENTS

URBAN FLUX: INSTALLATION 816 View works that will be installed at 816 Congress (by artists Barbara Strasen, Kathryn Henneman, and Vasa Mihich) alongside work from emerging Austin artists – Michelle Mayer, William Hundley, Sean Ripple, and Michelle Brandt – in a 10,402 square feet unit on the 15th floor. **Opening reception:** *Fri., April 18, 4-9pm. Talk With the Artists:* *Sat., April 19, 1pm.* 816 Congress.

AUSTIN FIGURATIVE GALLERY Give Up the Ghost Eerie and macabre works of many different artists on the theme of “Giving up the Ghost.” With live music from Luna Tart (8pm) and Songs Against Sex (9pm). *Fri., April 18. AFG Groupshow* Member exhibition with art, music, beer, and two full sets played by the Calm Blue Sea. *Sat., April 19, 8pm. 301 Chicon Unit F, 296-6624. Free. www.austinfigurativegallery.com.*

APERTURA: FREE PUBLIC OPENING Spend an afternoon enjoying the new studios and unique site at Laguna Gloria. *Sat., April 19. 3809 W. 35th, 495-9224. Free. www.amoa.org.*

BAY 6 GALLERY: GRAND OPENING The newest gallery in the Big Medium complex hosts a grand-opening launch party with an introduction to the artists Darvin Jones, Sharon Kyle Kuhn, and Caroline Wright. Reception (with live music by Mediums): *Sat., April 19, 6-10pm. 5305 Bolm, 905-8775.*

AUSTIN/LIMA: SISTER CITIES ARTS & CRAFT FAIR Proceeds from *Camino al Exito Para Madres Jóvenes* will benefit teenage mothers in Lima, Peru. Art, music, and refreshments. *Sat., April 19, 10am-6pm. 201 E. Second, 477-3099. www.austinlima.org.*

OPENING

ART PALACE: SWAN SCHOOL; THE MATRICULATION Ali Fitzgerald's second solo exhibition here uses drawing-based sculptures, dioramas, and site-specific installations to explore victimization and violence within an adolescent caste system. Reception: *Fri., April 18, 8-10pm. Through May 21. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: GOLDSMITH 5/ METALLURGY Funky to fantastic jewelry by five leading Austin jewelers, featuring a silent auction to benefit LifeWorks. Reception: *Fri., April 18, 6-8pm.* Exhibition: *April 19-20. Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. 1507 W. Koenig, 346-9423. skriechbaum@austin.rr.com.*

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART The Blanton's popular **UT Faculty Triennial** exhibition resumes in the new museum. This year's guest curator, James Elaine of UCLA's Hammer Museum of Art, selects a diversity of styles and media from among the faculty's broad range of artistic production. Exhibition: *April 19-June 8. The Language of Prints* explores the medium as a uniquely rich and collective system of expression, a language, with distinctive principles, persistent tendencies, and shared processes. Planned to coincide with the annual meeting of the Print Council of America, the first ever in the state of Texas, the show will feature 100 of the collection's finest and most distinctive prints. Exhibition: *April 22-Aug. 17. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

SVT: DOUBLE REALITY EXHIBITION Conceived and curated by Ron Berry and Jade Walker, the Fuse Box Collaboration Project pairs five Austin-based artists with an artist from a different geography and media. Reception: *Fri., April 25, 6pm.* Exhibition: *April 24-May 3. 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

CLOSING

PUMP PROJECT: PHOTOCOMMUNICATIONS features new work in photography and digital media, from the Photocommunications majors at St. Edward's University. *Through April 24. 702 Shady Ln. www.wearephotography.org.*

BROCCA GALLERY: ABSTRACT 08 Juried abstract show by Texas Society of Sculptors, with abstract paintings by Gregory Beck and Augusto Brocca. *Through April 19. 1103 E. Sixth, 628-1306. www.broccagallery.com.*

OKAY MOUNTAIN: WE'VE GOT TISSUES It's Austin's premiere of **I-Be Area**, with the work of Jesse Greenberg, Brian McKelligott, Lizzie Fitch,

required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); open dance 8:15-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.aifd.cc.*

AUSTIN GAY/LESBIAN SALSA GROUP Welcome this free group that invites gays/lesbians who want to learn (or already know) how to salsa to gather and dance. *Wednesdays. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austingaysalsa.*

SPEAKEASY: SALSA LESSONS Combining the classic sultry moves and one of Austin's fave hangouts with live Latin music. *Wednesdays, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.*

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. *Tuesdays, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.*

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.*

Classical Music

OPENING

MIRÓ QUARTET The fierceome foursome brings its stringy magic to works by Beethoven, Arensky, and Schubert. *Thu., April 17, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall, 27 E. Campus Dr., 417-7764. \$10-17. www.music.utexas.edu/calendar.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHORALE AND ST. DAVID'S CHOIR The two vocal groups perform “Requiem” by Andre Campra and “De Profundis Clamavi” (“Out of the depths I cry to Thee”) by Henry Desmaret, featuring an all-star 20-piece Baroque period-instrument orchestra and a quintet of favorite local soloists, in this latest installment of the St. Cecilia Music Series. *Fri., April 18, 8pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 345-8866 x43. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students). www.fpcAustin.org/news/music.html.*

AUSTIN LYRIC OPERA: CARMEN In 2001 ALO staged a daring version of Bizet's smoldering story in the old City Coliseum. Now, about a hundred yards away, ALO reprises this audience favorite as its grand opening production in the brand-new Long Center. Rinat Shaham set the marker for all future Austin performances then, and mezzo-soprano Beth Clayton, “six feet tall and stunning,” according to *The New York Times*, looks set to equal the feat. Sung in French with English supertitles. See “Austin Lyric Opera: ‘Carmen’ Glee-A,” p.46, for more. *Fri., April 18, 7:30pm; Sun., April 20, 3pm; Thu., April 24, 7:30pm; Sat., April 26, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 472-5992, 800/31-OPERA. \$26. www.austinylyricopera.org.*

AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY: GRISHAI He's already wowed Austin with his “jaw-dropping technical abilities and enthralling musicality,” now Grisha steps up to the International Series, brandishing his fiery flamenco and classical guitar stylings. *Sat., April 19, 8pm. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center, 300-2247. \$25-50. www.austinclassicalguitar.org.*

MUSICA ECCLESIAE: THE UT CHAMBER SINGERS This series of Downtown performances brings some of the area's best classical music to St. Mary's soaring sanctuary. Here, James Morrow directs the UT group performing an a cappella program of sacred music from Renaissance Spain and France inspired by the celebrated pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. *Mon., April 21, 8pm. Cathedral of St. Mary, 203 E. 10th, 471-0806.*

AN AFTERNOON WITH MOZART *Thu., April 24. 478-1933. Free. www.1stenglish.org.*

UT MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE BEREKET & THE EARLY MUSIC ENSEMBLE *Fri., April 25. Free admission. www.music.utexas.edu/calendar.*

3 REDNECK TENORS AT THE LONG CENTER *Thu., April 24. 474-LONG (5664). \$15-30. www.thelongcenter.org.*

UCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Classes are forming now in belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, and tai chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar. 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.*

BEGINNER ARGENTINE TANGO Laura Pellegrino leads this six-week course in tango. *Through April 17. Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. \$90. www.tangointexas.com.*

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. Call or write for details. *Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research @ Oak Knoll, 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.*

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES Learn traditional and classical Egyptian techniques in this fun and fast-paced class. Contact Drakon for details. *512/750-7037. \$13 per class; \$66 for six classes. www.desertpassion.com.*

SALSA SATURDAYS @ THE CEPEDA BRANCH Adult salsa classes for beginners. *Saturdays through the end of May, 2-4pm. Cepeda Branch Austin Public Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley. 974-7372. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research. 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.*

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.*

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys; no partner needed but couples welcome. *Thursdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100. 327-2869. First class free.*

FOLKLORE ARGENTINO Introductory level *gato, chacarera*, and more. *Tuesdays, 7:45pm. EsquinaTango, 209 Pedernales. 524-2772. \$12 each class. www.esquinatangoaustin.com.*

ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: NEW MODERN CLASSES Taught by Andrea Ariel. Open to all levels. *Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm; Thursdays, 7:15-8:45pm. Knabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh. 458-4258. \$12.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. *Beginners: Saturdays, noon-1pm. Intermediate: Saturdays, 1-2:30pm. 2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. Fees vary. www.estudioflamenco.com.*

MODERN DANCE CLASSES Ellen Bartel of Spank Dance Company leads a series of classes in modern dance (all levels). *Times and prices vary. See the Tapestry website for details. Tapestry Dance Company studios, 2302 Western Trails. www.tapestry.org.*

SOLID CHROME DANCERS Learn the Texas two-step and Western swing in a real honky-tonk. Singles and couples welcome to these ongoing classes. *Thursdays, 8pm. Broken Spoke, 3201 S. Lamar, 417-7383. \$8. www.myspace.com/solidchromedancers.*

SALSA DANCE CONTEST Dance International and CY host this third annual contest, featuring live music by Cienfuegos and contest music by DJ Fabian. The freestyle salsa contest for amateurs and couples happens between the band sets. *Sat., April 19, 6:30-9pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000. Free. www.centralmarket.com.*

SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:45pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. \$3. www.austinscandi.org.*

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: WEDNESDAY CONTRA DANCE Traditional social dances to live music every week. You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. Make new friends in a very casual atmosphere. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3 donation. www.ci.austin.tx.us.*

NIA CLASSES The Nia Technique is a high-powered energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. The first class is free. *Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. www.ci.austin.tx.us.*

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Start out a fun evening learning a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688.

Friday: It's **Threefer Madness** time, in which a trio of troupes battle for supremacy. *8pm. \$10.* Then you've got a **Double Barrel** waiting for you, featuring two – count 'em: two – improv teams on creative fire. *10pm. \$10.*

Saturday: Andy Crouch and friends present a riotous group of comedians in a show of **Improvised Shakespeare** – said to be one hell of a Bardic hoot night. *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *Highly recommended. 10pm. \$10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. [www.thevelveetaroom.com](#).

Open Mic Night These are your would-be comedic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them; fear them. This week's host: **John Rabon**. *Thursdays, 10pm.*

Nancy Reed won the 1994 Funniest Person in Austin contest and went on to tickle crowds across the nation, touring extensively with Tommy Chong (before he went to prison and after he got out). Now she's back at the Velv, with **Doug Mellard** and **Brendon Walsh** opening. *Fri-Sat., April 18-19, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY OPEN MIC This takes some bravery; it could be painful or hilarious; but we reckon the beverages are always good there in Gohring-sensei's martial-arts-inflected java joint. (Arrive early to sign up.) *Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.*

FUNNIEST PERSON IN AUSTIN COMPETITION The yearly showdown has begun, giving you something funny to do on what might've been just another boring Monday night. See top talents and complete unknowns battle it out for the right to the coveted title. There's a diverse slate of comics each night, some hilarious, some unforgivably lame, all set on victory, their eyes weirdly ablaze with the lust for fame and fortune. *Through May 12. Mondays, 8pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.*

GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS: LEAD UP TO LAFF The delightful dames of impromptu tummeling are accelerating toward the star-studded Ladies Are Funny festival (coming up at the end of April) with a series of their fabulous and funny improvised musicals. Recommended. *Through April 19. Saturdays, 8pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$7-10. ggg.austininprov.com.*

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK features the best comics in Austin, so they say – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, deep in the heart of collegiate Texas. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747. \$5. www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck.*

Dance

LORD OF THE DANCE Clackety-clackety-clack! Back to Austin comes Michael Flatley's Celtic extravaganza. Played out over 21 scenes, the show offers a grand scale of precision dancing, dramatic music, colorful costumes, and state-of-the-art staging and lighting. *Thu., April 17, 7:30pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 477-6060, 800/982-2386. \$25-50. www.texasboxoffice.com.*

1,001 NIGHTS

MELISSA AMIRA'S CAROUSEL CARAVAN Jeanette hosts this monthly shimmy, featuring a host of hot belly dancers in one of Austin's coolest bars. CDs, DVDs, and costumes for sale. *Every third Saturday, 8pm. Carousel Lounge, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. Free. www.carouseloungeaustin.com.*

TWO LEFT FEET

FLAMENCO CLASSES For beginners and intermediate dancers. Beginner: *Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm.* Intermediate: *Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. Joyce Willett School of Dance, 5811 Berkman. \$14 each class.*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. Also: **Volunteers sought;** help out in exchange for dance lessons. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.danceinl.org.*



‘Erin Cone: New Paintings’

Wally Workman Gallery, through April 30

Keratotomy, angioplasty. The mathematical precision of lasers is often used to affect improvements to the eye, to the heart.

People walking around – once blind but now can see, once afflicted by a faulty ticker but now like Secretariat with their cardiac vigor – enjoying what life has to offer years beyond when they otherwise might have been food for worms. One of these people walks into the Wally Workman Gallery to see what they can see.

On the walls: new paintings by Erin Cone, Lubbock native, UT grad, current resident of Santa Fe, N.M.

Portraits of women, rendered as planes of color and overlapping shadows yet instantly recognizable as women, as particular women, often in some simple yet stunning equation of balance with abstract shapes: a cube here, a rectangle there: an anchor, a catalyst. This is divine precision, each

painting a revelation of composition and rendering.

Our person living on time borrowed with technology moves from room to room within the Workman Gallery, enhanced pupils drinking in the light, marveling at the precision. It's not just the paintings themselves; it's the way in which they've been arranged in the elegantly spare

surroundings, each portrait in a visual conversation with the others. On one wall, a pair called *Gossip I* and *Gossip II*: Each shows a woman with one hand partially obscuring her mouth, muting and directing what must be whispered speech, each gossip isolated in a field of color. Between these two, another portrait, *Transition*, a woman whose back is turned – as if to the rumors insinuated on either side of her.

The gallery visitor continues through the space, entranced, staring openly at these flat, captured women and what they've wrought, via Cone's artistry, from the visible spectrum. Here is a portrait called *Prescient*, the woman's face obscured from the eyes upward by a solid block of color; it's eerie, unsettling, like a portrait of some precog from the worlds of Philip K. Dick. There, on the south wall, is a series of smaller paintings of pairs of hands arranged to present a variety of aspects: *Reveal*, *Conceal*, *Shelter*, *Shift*. And, everywhere, in the artist's meticulous acrylics, representations of humanity pared to its graphic essentials and framed within an austere matrix of shade and symmetry.

Our miracle of medicine will linger before departing the gallery this day, will linger long among these precisions of Cone that, over time, affect improvements to the eye, to the heart.

– Wayne Alan Brenner



and Ryan Trecartin. Also showing is **Mice Space, Paper Graveyard, Welcome Wealthy Patrons**, with work by Dave Bryant. *Through April 19. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.*

SLUGFEST GALLERY: MIKE MONTEIRO There's a whole roomful of the man's new drawings waiting for you. Going to see this show here is a wonderful idea. *Through April 20. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.*

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS

Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth.*

AMOA: 20 TO WATCH The latest iteration of this locally invigorated exhibition features work by Yoon Cho, Meggie Chou, Ali Fitzgerald, Alyson Fox, Buster Graybill, Jen Hirt & Scott Webel (Museum of Natural and Artificial Ephemerata), Jules Buck Jones, Baseera Khan, Andrew Long, Kurt Mueller, Jill Pangallo, Scott Proctor, Matthew Rodriguez, Shawn Smith, Xochi Solis, Sarah Sudhoff, Raymond Uhlir, Stephanie Wagner, Rebecca Ward, and Eric Zimmerman. *Through May 11. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

ART ALLIANCE AUSTIN + PUMP PROJECT In its second show, Art Alliance Austin has teamed up with Pump Project Art Complex to display the works of local artists at this new location. *315 Congress #100, 610-4211. www.artallianceaustin.org.*

ART ON 5TH: 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY Austinites and tourists alike continue to applaud the colorful and eclectic gathering of local, Texas, national, and international artists on display in this multiple winner of *The Austin Chronicle's* "Best Gallery" award. Opening weekend features discounts and a silent auction, with proceeds benefiting Mobile Loaves and Fishes. *Through April 26. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodríguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablataboadastudio.com.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.*

AVENUE GALLERY: THE MANY FACES OF DUNCAN features photographs of the popular Scottish Fold cat belonging to photographer Kip Holm. *1510½ S. Congress, 442-3600. www.avenuegallerysoco.com.*

BLANTON: IN KATRINA'S WAKE The latest exhibition in the museum's contemporary series serves as a report on post-Katrina art and artists from New Orleans and across the country. *Through May 25. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

BOB BULLOCK TEXAS HISTORY MUSEUM Eyewitness: American Originals From the National Archives draws on rarely displayed documents, audio recordings such as Lady Bird Johnson describing the events of President Kennedy's assassination on Nov. 22, 1963, and film footage from the extensive holdings of the National Archives and its presidential libraries and regional archives. *Through April 20. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

BIG MEDIUM: BEAT Photographer and filmmaker Christopher Felver has documented outstanding figures of the Beat Generation for more than three decades. You know: Kerouac, Ginsberg, Ferlinghetti, Baraka, all that wordy crowd. This exhibition presents images from Felver's newest book. Also: a screening of several of his short films. *5305 Bolm. www.bolmstudios.com.*

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepaustinweird.com.*

CRL: SHIFT, AN MFA THESIS EXHIBITION features the work of Sana Ali, Alexandra Morton, Erin Sanders, Selina Silvas, and Christie Zangrilli, in the form of wall covering, installation, and digital imagery. *Through April 26. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099. Free.*

CRL: UT MFA THESIS XIII This show opens at the future home of UT's Visual Arts Center – not, please note, at the current venue run by Creative Research Lab in Flatbed World Headquarters. And it's a helluva fine show, too, displaying the work of 13 soon-to-be MFA'd studio artists. *Through May 2. UT's Art Building, corner of 23rd & San Jacinto. Through May 2. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.*

D BERMAN GALLERY: MALCOLM BUCKNALL A chameleonlike eclecticism has characterized the artist's work, but the common thread in Bucknall's compelling revisionist imagery is an animal-human mix. Imagine Delacroix was a Furry. Gallery talk: *Sat., April 19, 1pm. Exhibition: Through May 17. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

DESIGN CENTER OF AUSTIN: BIKE ART EXHIBITION This show uses artistic expression to explore Austin's love of bicycling. *Through May 31. 3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 441-5540. www.designcenterofaustin.com.*

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

EL TALLERY GALLERY: AMADO PENA Signed and numbered lithographs, serigraphs, etchings, and other limited editions. *Through April 30. 2438 W. Anderson Ste. C-3, 302-0100.*

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: ON THE ROAD WITH THE BEATS This exhibition traces the travels of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, and their friends across America and the globe. Manuscripts, books, photographs, and visual arts from the Ransom Center's collections tell the story of the beat generation and the literary and social trends they inspired. (The scroll manuscript of Kerouac's *On the Road* will be on display through June 1.) *Through Aug. 3. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.*

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: LA CAJA/THE BOX is a museum inside a museum, as curated by Martha Papadimitriou. Featuring prominent contemporary artists from Mexico, "The Huge" is an exhibition of 21 paintings and sculptures displayed in a tradi-

WORKSHOP, APRIL 26th, 1 - 3pm:

Going Deeper with Nia Series



Ready to deepen your Nia practice and get more out of your class experience?

The first workshop in this series will focus on the Base of the body. We will learn proper form for steps, stances and kicks. Some Nia experience required.

Space is limited, so register early. \$30 members (\$35 others).



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tional museum gallery, and “The Small” is a miniature contemporary museum. Bonus: The Latino Art Wing features miniature artworks by Texas artists. *Through May 15.* 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

INTERMEZZO: BENITO HUERTA This solo show comprises 30 works, including recent, large-scale paintings, monoprints, watercolors, and drawings. *Through Aug. 31.* 600 River, 788-3106. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA Take a curator-led tour of the Impermanent Collection, a glorious trainwreck of forms of collection. *Saturdays, 1-4pm.* 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org/collection/ghosts.php.

NEW EAST GALLERY: REJI THOMAS Thomas' commercial work vividly illustrates her skill for sand-blasting, hot-glass casting, and welding glass pieces that distinguish her from her contemporaries. *Through May 31.* 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.

SOUTH AUSTIN MUSEUM OF POPULAR CULTURE: FRANK KOZIK Here's a retrospective of rock & roll poster art spanning years of work by the underground phenom who, having ditched Austin years ago, continues to stretch graphic boundaries and birth smokin' labbits by the truckload. *Through May 3.* 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.samopc.org.

STENSURD STUDIO Carol Stensrud's figurative and abstract paintings are on display with the wood, stone, and found-object sculptures of Teddy Fernandez. 1601 Eva, 448-9637.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE GALLERY: PASATIEMPOS DE LA FRONTERA Images from El Paso/Juarez Borderlands by Chicano narrative photographer Chuy Benitez, who documents the cultural vibrance of a region he says is too often misrepresented as dangerous and drab. *Through May 1.* 1317 S. Congress. www.texasfolklife.org.

TIRU GALLERY: LUMIERE Photographs by Suzanne Short and Carol Hayman, and selected crafts from Ana Brasil. *Through April 26.* 3701 Guadalupe, 773-6684. www.tirugallery.com.

WALLY WORKMAN: ERIN CONE This is a sort of homecoming, as the (brilliant, nonpareil) Cone began her career at the Workman gallery in 2001 – soon after she graduated from UT. The show's not recommended for everyone, only for those who can appreciate the combination of stunning portraiture with the very pinnacle of visual design. Personally, we're transfixed by the beauty represented here. *Through April 30.* 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428.

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com.

WELLS FARGO: CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY *Through May 12.* 4301 W. William Cannon.

ARTWORKS GALLERY Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

FLIPNOTICS : BRIAN GILBERT *Guilty Pleasures.* Reception: *Fri., April 11, 7-9pm.* Exhibition: *Through May 9.* 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097. www.flipnotics.com.

THE GREEN MUSE: J. LOWRY DOILE 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789.

LAMBERTS: JOAN MCGUIRE New abstract works on paper. 401 W. Second, 494-1500. www.lambertsaustin.com.

LITTLE CITY: ENTANGLEMENT Art by J. Lowry Doyle. 916 Congress, 476-CITY (2489). Free. www.jlowrydoyle.com.

LOVEJOYS: BART FARAR Highly recommended. 604 Neches, 477-1268.

ROADHOUSE RELICS Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture, by Todd Sanders. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

ABSTRACTS TO ACORNIS Photography by Deana Newcomb. *Through Nov. 3.* 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.

VIN BISTRO: JAN KNOX Exhibition: *Through June 2.* Sponsored by 10 Off the Edge. 1601 W. 38th.

VIN BISTRO: RUNES Acrylic paintings on paper and canvas. *Through April 28.* 1601 W. 38th.

WESTS This inaugural exhibition features artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. 408 Josephine.

WILL HAMPTON BRANCH LIBRARY: IMAGIN ART Works by Bahn, Carol Gonzales, Nancy West, and Suzanne Worrell. Exhibition: *Through April 30.* 5125 Convict Hill Rd.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

TINY BRIGADES ART SHOW @ THE OPERA HOUSE Open participation and interpretation. Anyone can enter; amateurs encouraged! The only requirement is that the artwork be “tiny.” All media accepted. Deadline: *May 2.* Entry fee: \$5. 440-1401. leah.theoperahouse@gmail.com.

THE CREATIVE SIDE ACADEMY WORKSHOPS Jewelry workshops in areas from essential stone setting to advanced precious metal clay are being offered by one of Austin's newest creative spaces. Classes: *Through May 29.* 628 Allen. 799-0589. www.creativeside.org.

DIVERSEARTS: EAST END FOURTH FRIDAYS CALL Interested in performance or vending opportunities for the inaugural event on April 25? Call or e-mail for details. 477-9438. info2@diversearts.org.

CALL FOR ARTISTS The 2008 “Salon des Refuses” exhibition at Blackbird Fine Art Studio in East Austin is accepting entries. Entry fee: \$18. Deadline: *May 17.* 236-9022. blackbirdfineart@yahoo.com.

ATELIER 3-D: SEEKING PRESENTERS The studio needs working sculptors who are willing to present their art to a small, highly interested group of local sculptors and artists. *Thursdays, 2-4pm.* 701 Tillery, 385-1115. www.atelier3-d.com.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES Municipal Court/Police Substation Project Deadline: *May 2.* See the AIPP website for details. 301 W. Second, 974-9314. www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp.

DIVERSITY PHOTO-DOCUMENTARY CALL FOR MODELS Ricardo Acevedo seeks models for **US**, a portrait project documenting Austin's multiracial families, couples, and individuals. Exhibition scheduled for July 2008. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. freaksamor07@yahoo.com.

SUMMER CAMP AT THE UMLAUF Sculptor to Be offers mornings filled with fun for ages 7-11. Session 1: *June 16-20, 9am-noon.* Session 2: *June 23-27, 9am-noon.* 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$145 per student. www.umlaufsculpture.org.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

JIM HIGHTOWER shares stories about those who take up the cause of justice by daring to *Swim Against the Current.* *Wed., April 23, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

CHRISTOPHER GAVIGAN says the Bubble Boy best get out of that plastic bubble, boy, 'cause, man, if you want a *Healthy Child, Healthy World*, best check the chems oozing out of just about every modern product in your reach. *Sun., April 20, 3pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

MELODY GRAVES conjures a Moses-style staff throwdown in her *Coach's Midnight Diner: The Jesus vs. Cthulhu Edition*, a faith-based anthology of horror, crime, mystery, and paranormal fiction. *Sat., April 19, 3pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

MICHAEL LOCKWOOD scores a sure thing with *Women Have All the Power – Too Bad They Don't Know It!* Lockwood is the husband of Lisa Leslie, WNBA player for the Los Angeles Sparks. We know who bounces the ball. *Sat., April 19, 4-6pm.* *Mitchie's Gallery*, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO presents legal expert Richard Grossman, co-author of *Taking Care of Business: Citizenship and the Charter of Incorporation*, on past lessons to be learned in the effort to roll back corporate power. David Barsamian hosts. *Fri., April 18, 2pm.* KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

UT CENTER FOR WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES Katie Stewart, Laurie B. Green, and Shannon Speed read from their works. *Fri., April 18, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

PLAYWRIGHT SHERRY KRAMER reads from her newest work, “The Bay of Fundy.” Kramer has taught for the Michener Center and the UT Department of Theatre & Dance regularly since the

mid-1990s and has been a shaping influence on their playwrighting programs. *Thu., April 17, 7:30pm.* *Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 471-1601.* Free. www.utexas.edu/academic/mcw.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

DOWNTOWN BOOK CLUB MEETING *Thu., April 17.* 974-7400. free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/apl_bc.htm.

SHAKES ALOUD! is a fun exploration of the Bard. People of all ages are welcome to this ongoing weekly reading group offered by Austin Shakespeare and moderated by Melinda Hall. This month is *Macbeth!* *Sundays, 5-7pm.* ACoT Headquarters, 701 Tillery. \$5. www.austinshakespeare.org.

LAW OF ATTRACTION GROUP gets magnetic with the principles in *The Law of Attraction* by Esther and Jerry Hicks and other such books. *Saturdays, 9am.* Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

GAIL FOLKINS presents Creative Non-Fiction: Jazzing Up Real Life at the monthly Writers' League of Texas meeting. Folkins is author of *Texas Dance Halls: A Two-Step Circuit.* *Thu., April 17, 7pm.* Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.

LUDICROUS SPEED CLUB straps their nuke on with *Snow Crash* by Neal Stephenson. *Mon., April 21, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

OPRAH SOULSEARCHERS stretches with *A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose* by Eckhart Tolle. *Through Dec. 17.* *Wednesdays, 6-8pm.* Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010.

MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB at Oak Hill discusses *A Long Way Gone.* *Thu., April 17, 7pm.* Hampton Library, 5125 Convict Hill Rd., 892-6680.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY discusses how APS can better serve poets and poetry in the year to come. *Sat., April 19, 1:15-3:30pm.* Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584. www.austinpoetrysociety.org.

AUSTIN WRITER'S BLOCK is a mutually supportive writing group. Also: writing exercises. *Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30pm.* La Madeleine, 3418 N. Lamar, 653-7872. www.austinwritersblock.com.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

IRWIN A. TANG discusses research gathered for his compilation of the first comprehensive history, *Asian Texans: Our Histories and Our Lives*. Edited by Tang and told by Asian historians, educators, writers, and community leaders, the book depicts Asian Texans' struggles and successes from before 1845 to Asian refugees of 2004-05. *Sun., April 20, 4pm.* UT-Austin Woodlridge Hall, 600 W. 24th.

POETRY WORKSHOP hosted by Barbara Youngblood Carr (author of six Ancestor Series books). Co-hosted by John Berry. Bring 10 copies of a work in progress for friendly critiquing. *Thu., April 17, 7pm.* Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

BEAT POET ANN WALDMAN discusses her life as a beat poet with Harry Ransom Center Curator of British and American Literature Molly Schwartzburg. Waldman co-founded (with Allen Ginsberg) the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa University, where she is the artistic director of the Summer Writing Program. Highly recommended. *Fri., April 18, 7pm.* Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

OPEN MICS

MONDAY NIGHT CAFFEINE for poets, singer-song-writers, and storytellers. Hosted by Edgar Pace. *Mondays, 7-10pm.* *Cafe Caffeine*, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.

GENUINE JOE Make some noise, or just sit and enjoy the enchanting air of North Austin. All acts welcome, but no cover songs. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm.* *Genuine Joe Coffeehouse*, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.

HIDEOUT IN FULL SPRING SWING with your host, Thom the World Poet, and special uncensored guests. *Mondays, 7-10pm.* The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).

RED SALMON ARTS PRESENTS CAFE LIBRO with Jimi Simmons, Karen Randolph, Sarah Del Seronde, film director of *Making the River*, and the producer Paul Stoll. They'll speak on the documentary about Jimi and George Simmons, their struggle for freedom, and their connection/history with Xicanindio elder

raúlrsalinás. (*Making the River* is screening at the Cine las Americas International Film Festival on *Sun., April 20, 5pm.*) *Open mic follows, hosted by Carole Metellus.* *Fri., April 18, 7pm.* Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First, 416-8885. www.resistenciabooks.com.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm.* *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

CITY-WIDE UNDER-21 POETRY SLAM SHOWCASE *Thu., April 17, 2pm.* *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 632-5033. \$5 (free, poets, ages 4 and younger). www.txywc.org.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating crew of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, po-mo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poets per week. \$100 cash prizes. Featured poets kick it on, and then the tangles get electric. *Wednesdays, 8pm.* Scoot Inn & Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200. www.nps2007.com.

UNCENSORED OPEN MIC is hosted by Ed of Poetry Karaoke. All ages welcomed. Musicians, artists, dancers, all open living and free! *Wednesdays, 8pm.* Sticky Fingers Boutique, 2201 S. First, 693-9570.

BORDERS ON THE WORD is one of Austin's longest-running poetry venues. Hosted by Barbara Youngblood Carr. Full open mic in celebration of National Poetry Month. *Wed., April 23, 7pm.* *Triumph Cafe*, 3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875. www.triumphcafe.com.

VENTANA DEL SOL with Element 615. Reincarnate a word. *Sundays, 7-9pm.* Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. www.ventanadel soul.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *fresh water greening in glassy depths suspended tenderly blue currents thick clear jelly of cradling arms she is a tendril of radiance pulsing days into wombs of every night as it moans alone & coupled & piercing (it can never be pierced but pierces) knot of her wanting caught in god's comb.* Namaste. Vaya con dios.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE BEATS This exhibition traces the travels of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, and their friends across America and the globe. Manuscripts, books, photographs, and visual art from the Ransom Center's collections tell the story of the beat generation and the literary and social revolution they inspired. *Through Aug. 3.* Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Every instant contains every other one and we float thick with awe across the fierce and holy face of time so that when life radiates to every corner of our world — green and insistent, against the brute force of a world flat crazy, we know love is both possible and the essential fact in the quickening of time and mud we call home. - Susan Bright, from “Love in a World at War”

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the May 2 issue is Monday, April 21.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Young@Heart

D: Stephen Walker. (PG, 107 min.)

A documentary about a choral group of lovable octogenarians whose repertoire includes songs by Sonic Youth and the Talking Heads? It sounds gimmicky, scary even. But despite an occasional lapse into nudge-nudge jokes about geriatric sex, incontinence, and the driving skills of the elderly, *Young@Heart* eschews the clichés about old people for something that we can all relate to: our own mortality. Shot in a

straightforward style that feels deceptively simple, this documentary spends two months with these senior citizens as they prepare for their Alive and Well concert in their home base of Northampton, Mass. During the course of these eight weeks, the drama of everyday life runs the gamut from the comical to the heart-breaking. During rehearsals, the chorus struggles with the daunting lyrics of “Yes We Can Can” (the filmmakers repeatedly remind you that the word “can” is repeated 71 times in the song), while off-stage some members of the chorus are engaged in the more sobering struggle between life and death. What brings together this disparate group of old-timers is the joy they feel when performing songs you’d never expect to hear being sung by someone born before World War II. (Try to imagine your grandmother crooning something from the Clash songbook.) Moreover, songs like Bowie’s “Golden Years” and the Bee Gees’ “Stayin’ Alive” take on an altogether different (often tongue-in-cheek) meaning when sung by someone with gray hair and wrinkles. *Young@Heart* more than subtly suggests that the secret to growing old is to feel young, and – based on what you see in this film – there may be some truth to that platitude. In



many ways, the movie’s theme is a contemporary variation on the signature line from Dylan Thomas’ famous poem about old age: By virtue of their dedication to their choral group, the people you meet in this film are, in their own way, raging against the dying of the light. This is most eloquently captured in a scene in which they perform at a nearby low-security prison, where the audience of male inmates is decades younger. Having just found out that a member of the group has passed away, the group dedicates their rendition of Bob Dylan’s “Forever Young” to him. The emotional impact of this performance, both upon the young men in the film who experience it firsthand and those of us experiencing it in the film audience, is nothing short of devastating. There may not be many things in this life that one can guarantee, but rest assured, it’s at this moment in *Young@Heart* where there won’t be a dry eye in the house.

– Steve Davis

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

New Reviews

88 MINUTES

D: Jon Avnet; with Al Pacino, Alicia Witt, Amy Brenneman, Leelee Sobieski, Benjamin McKenzie, Deborah Kara Unger, William Forsythe. (R, 108 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Pacino plays a forensic psychiatrist in Seattle, who receives a phone call from a prisoner whom his testimony sent to death row informing him that he has only 88 minutes to live. The film was not screened for press.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

DARK MATTER

D: Chen Shi-Zheng; with Liu Ye, Meryl Streep, Aidan Quinn, Blair Brown, Sina Amedson, Erick Avari, Boris McGiver, Jodi Russell, Joe Grifasi. (R, 90 min.)

If I’ve got this right, cosmologists use the term “dark matter” to refer to the 99% of the universe that doesn’t emit enough light to be seen. They’re not sure what it’s made of exactly, but they theorize it has enormous gravitational effect on all the things we can see out in space, namely

galaxies, stars, and alien spaceships. In other words, dark matter is what’s bubbling just below the surface of things, the unknown quantity making everything tick. Which is an apt enough metaphor for Chen’s directorial debut, which has less to do with the darkness permeating the cosmos than it does with the darkness rattling around in our own heads. Loosely based on the story of Gang Lu, a Chinese student at the University of Iowa who turned violent after his doctoral dissertation failed to win a prestigious academic award in 1991, *Dark Matter* follows the sad tale of Liu Xing (Liu), a young genius from a poor neighborhood in Beijing who arrives in small-town, big-sky America to build elaborate computer models of the universe for a theoretical-cosmology heavyweight named Reiser (Quinn). Now, it’s true that in the movies it rarely takes much to turn a prodigy crazy – a piano concerto by Rachmaninoff or the belief that communists are planting subversive code in copies of *Life* magazine should do the trick – but demanding a detailed map of the infinite cosmos is enough to run anyone mad, especially a sensitive foreigner stuck in Middle America with barely enough English to order a cup of tea. So when Xing thinks he’s discovered the reconciliation point between Reiser’s cosmic string theory and

his own love for the mysteries of dark matter (his eureka moment, like all cinematic eureka moments, comes not in a lab or a classroom but in the kitchen, while cooking eggs), he glows with the light of a thousand supernovas, only to learn that his master – as capable of jealousy as anyone – won’t give his theory the time of day. It’s hard to ask for juicier, or more timely, subject matter than high-pressure academic ambition turning violent, but to map the descent of a genius into madness isn’t a task to be taken lightly. Sophisticated psychoanalysis will be required, as will sensitivity to the slow accumulation of slights and disappointments that, over time, add up to a rationalization for terrible behavior. There is, however, no need for a scene in which your hero loses touch with reality via cock-eyed camera trickery and thumping techno music – especially when you’ve got in your arsenal a heartbreaking scene showing your disenchanted Einstein reduced to selling skin-care products door-to-door to make ends meet. That scene (featuring a predictably brilliant Streep) says more about the frailty of human identity and the depths of shame than any thousand hallucination sequences or contrived foreshadowings ever could.

– Josh Rosenblatt

★★ Arbor

EXPELLED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED

D: Nathan Frankowski. (PG, 90 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Author/come-dian/speechwriter Ben Stein travels the globe to uncover a worldwide plot to unseat scientists, educators, and philosophers who are being fired, ridiculed, and ostracized for supporting the theory of intelligent design over Darwin’s theory of evolution. The film was not screened for press – another obvious plot.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
Arbor, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY

D: Brad Hennegan, John Hennegan. (NR, 97 min.)

As we all know, the first Saturday in May marks a date with the “most exciting two minutes in sports”: the Kentucky Derby. This documentary follows six horse trainers and their experiences on the 2006 Derby trail, as they compete in the various races that will make them eligible to run at Louisville’s Churchill Downs. As the filmmakers tell us at the beginning, 40,000 Thoroughbreds are born every year, but only 20 make it to the Kentucky Derby. Thus starts the movie’s confusion about whether it is a documentary about the horses or their human competitors. After informing us of the horses’ odds, the focus shifts to the human beings’ fortunes. Yet 2006 was the exceptional year in which the horse Barbaro, after winning the Kentucky Derby, was felled in his subsequent run at Preakness while on his path toward capturing the Triple Crown. A nation mourned when Barbaro eventually had to be put down, and that unexpected drama colors the movie, whose stated purpose is to focus on the trainers. Barbaro’s tragedy provides the material for the film’s awkward epitaph. *The First Saturday in May* jumps around various locations in the U.S. and Dubai to follow the trainers as they prepare for the season. The men (and they are all men) all have different personalities and life experiences, but they all want nothing more than the opportunity to go to the big dance. We watch as they stroke their Thoroughbreds, talk of their aspirations, encourage their kids’ love of the sport, and give interviews to the press. Although different in style and detail, the men are more or less interchangeable. Many questions occur to the viewer along the way but are never addressed by the filmmakers: What was the reason one trainer switched jockeys shortly before the race; what is the thinking behind each man’s strategic plan of when and where to race his horse; does this “sport of kings” have any downsides such as compulsive gambling or race-fixing (nary a bet is placed throughout the entire movie, except for one preteen who brags of the \$1,000 “brick” in his pocket); and what of the color divide between the exclusively white owners and trainers and the groomers and other stable help, who are predominantly men of color? Still, what’s not to love? As Derby passerby Carson Kressley explains it, “I love horses, hats, and bourbon.” The film provides the first two, but the bourbon is BYOB.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Dobie

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

D: Rob Minkoff; with Jackie Chan, Jet Li, Michael Angarano, Liu Yifei, Collin Chou, Morgan Benoit, Li Bingbing. (PG-13, 113 min.)

If you've shelled out dough for the last half-dozen films by the grinny, battered Chan — Hong Kong's kung-fu ambassador-in-perpetuity — then you can be forgiven for thinking that this, too, is yet another silly, flailing mishmash of comic battery. It's more than that, thankfully, and with a sure, swift kick to the mental palate, it dislodges not only the vile taste of Brett Ratner's crappily Americanized *Rush Hour* trilogy but also Chan's own lackluster outings of late (*The Medallion*, *The Tuxedo*, *The Myth*). Pairing Chan with Li, the actor who once looked to be his heir apparent, is an undeniably smart casting move. Although nine years Chan's junior, Li's own output of late has been daringly rote (except for *Hero* and the UK version of *Danny the Dog*, which was released stateside as *Unleashed*). Pairing these two martial-arts legends in a story that is essentially one long homage to the great Shaw Brothers films of yore allows *The Forbidden Kingdom* plenty of leeway for comic moments (courtesy, as always, of Chan) and some seriously kickass fight scenes (choreographed by *Kill Bill*'s Yuen Woo-ping). There's also plenty of the traditional wirework and not nearly as much CGI (which almost always feels like a cheat in the fantastical world of traditional Hong Kong knockabouts) as you'd expect. The plot is negligible, but that's fine since it's really only a way to get from one set-piece to another. Angarano plays Jason, a bullied teen who miraculously finds himself back in ancient China via a magic staff, which he must restore to its rightful owner before he can return to his own time and wipe the floor with his 20th century tormentors. Yawn. Li, playing both a grave monk and the outlandishly entertaining Monkey King, and Chan, riffing on his own character of the *Drunken Master* of blotto-fu, play dueling Mr. Miyagi's to Angarano's Kung-fu Kid (with a nod to *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* in the willowy form of Liu), and the results are respectable if not classic. With its many, many references to Hong Kong's cinematic past (*Zu: Warrior of the Magic Mountain*, the *Drunken Master* films, Li's *Swordsman II*, *The Bride With White Hair*), *The Forbidden Kingdom* comes off as an introductory course in genre ground rules for younger audiences whose only contact with Hong Kong bruisey comes from video games or, worse, Brett Ratner. And for long-time fans, it's no *Police Story II*, but then neither was the straight-to-DVD effort *New Police Story*. — Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL

D: Nicholas Stoller; with Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, Russell Brand, Bill Hader, Jonah Hill, Jack McBrayer, Paul Rudd. (R, 112 min.)

Written by and starring *Freaky and Geeks* alum Segel (Neil Peart! Yeah!), *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* has *Freaks* creator Judd Apatow as producer, which is rarely a bad thing. Apatow is, of course, the main mover behind recent hits like *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, *Superbad*, and *Knocked Up* (and the clunker *Drillbit Taylor*), and his

Openings

88 Minutes (R)

Dark Matter (R)

Expedel: No Intelligence Allowed (PG)

The First Saturday in May (NR)

The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13)

Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)

Where in the World Is Osama Bin Laden? (PG-13)

Young@Heart (PG)

Zombie Strippers (R)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🍌 La bomba

particular brand of comedy is both knowing and sweetly perplexed, like a wise old puppy in a microwave. (It also, at times, borders on the non sequitur.) Apatow has, in the past few years, become a cottage industry unto himself, a postmillennial John Hughes, but with little (so far) of the increasingly strident precocity that Hughes evinced as his career devolved from the great (*The Breakfast Club*) to the banal and beyond (*Baby's Day Out*, the *Home Alone* films). *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, despite its instantly forgettable title, is the perfect vehicle for Stoller, who thus far hasn't really found a comic niche to call his own. His regular-joe features make him perfect for "buddy" parts, but there's a wildly neurotic and needy gleam lurking behind that facial facade: Jack Armstrong via Droopy dog. It's that semihidden male vulnerability — along with his ability to be utterly naked, literally, on camera — that makes his performance in what might otherwise have been a boilerplate romantic comedy feel so fresh and vital. (Not *that* fresh and vital, but still.) When creatively blocked television-score writer Peter Bretter (Segel) is dumped by his up-and-coming actress girlfriend (Bell), for whose *CSI*-esque forensic show he does the doomy themes, he wallows in self-pity and then ships off to Hawaii for some heartbreak therapy, not realizing his ex is staying at the same resort with her new beau, smooth Brit-rocker Aldous Snow (Brand). The rest of the film often plays out as you might expect it to, but Segel, scripting himself, injects regular bursts of comic genius into the proceedings, including a giggly-weepee, ongoing gag about a musical

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Mon-Thurs: 7:10, 9:40

ZOMBIE STRIPPERS
Fri: (4:30) 7:30, 10:00; Sat/Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:00
Mon-Thurs: 7:30, 10:00

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
Fri: (4:00) 7:00, 9:30; Sat/Sun: (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:30
Mon-Thurs: 7:00, 9:30

PLANET B-BOY
Fri-Sun: (4:20) 9:50; Mon-Thurs: 9:50

In Bruges
Fri, Tues-Thurs: 7:20; Sat/Sun: (1:20) 7:20
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Be Kind Rewind: Sat, 1:45, 7:30
HRC: Beat Films: Desolation Angels: Wed, 7:00pm
Master Pancake: *The Day After Tomorrow:* Wed, 7:00pm
Weird Wednesday: *The Guy From Harlem:* Wed, 12mid
Music Monday: *Heima:* Mon, 10:00pm
Just Can't Get Enough: *The New Wave Sing-Along:* Thu (4/24), 9:15pm
Michael Jackson: *Thrill the World:* Wed, 10:00pm
Terror Thursday: *One Dark Night:* Thu (4/24), 12mid
Master Pancake: *Planet of the Apes:* Fri, 6:45pm
Smart People: Fri, 4:45, 7:00, 9:55; Sat, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:55; Sun, 2:15, 7:30, 9:55;
Mon-Tue, 7:30, 9:55; Wed, 7:30pm; Thu (4/24), 7:00, 9:30
Super Fun Monkey Bash 8: Sun, 7:00pm
Super High Me: Fri, 4:20pm; Sun, 4:20pm; Wed, 9:55pm; Thu (4/24), 7:00pm
Sci-Fi: The Thing: Sat, 4:15pm; Sun, 1:45, 9:30; Mon, 7:00pm; Tue, 10:00pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-8135.
Tromatic Thursday: *Alien Blood: Director's Cut:* Thu (4/24), 10:00pm
The Bank Job: Fri-Wed, 3:10, 9:45; Thu (4/24), 3:10pm
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Wed, 12:00, 7:00; Thu (4/24), 12:00pm
***The Forbidden Kingdom:** 12:15, 3:00, 7:15, 10:05
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** 12:20, 3:10, 7:20, 10:15
Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back: Fri-Sat, 11:55pm
Leatherheads: Fri-Tue, 12:05, 3:05, 7:05, 10:00; Wed, 7:05, 10:00;
Thu (4/24), 12:05, 3:05, 10:00
TV @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (4/24), 9:00pm
***Prom Night:** Fri-Wed, 12:10, 3:30, 7:25, 9:55; Thu (4/24), 12:10, 3:30, 9:55
Quantum Hoops: *The Caltech Basketball Story:* Thu (4/24), 7:30pm
***Smart People:** 12:20, 3:20, 7:30, 10:10
***Street Kings:** 12:35, 3:25, 7:10, 10:10
Super High Me: Sun, 7:30pm
AFF: Two Days in April: Thu (4/24), 7:30pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.
The 11th Hour: Tue, 6:00pm
Around the World in 80 Days: Sun, 12:00pm
Big Man Japan: Thu (4/24), 11:50pm
Cine las Americas International Film Festival: Mon-Thu, www.cinelasamericas.org
Mayors Book Club: "Cry Freetown" & "Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone": Mon, 7:00pm
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 2:20pm; Thu (4/24), 2:20pm
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40pm
AFS: Goodbye, Dragon Inn: Tue, 7:00pm
The Grand: Fri-Mon, 4:50, 7:45; Wed, 4:50pm; Thu (4/24), 4:50, 7:45
Sweet Feast: La Dolce Vita: Wed, 7:00pm
Leatherheads: Fri, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55pm; Sat, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15pm;
Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55pm; Mon, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25pm; Tue, 11:00am,
1:40, 4:25, 9:55pm; Wed-Thu (4/24), 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:15pm
Master Pancake: *Planet of the Apes:* Sat, 9:30, 11:55
Sex and Death 101: Fri-Sun, 10:25pm; Mon, 10:30pm
21: Fri, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00; Sat, 12:40, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00; Sun, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00; Mon, 12:40,
4:00, 7:10, 10:00; Tue, 12:40, 4:00, 10:00; Wed-Thu (4/24), 12:40, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00
The Unforgotten: Fri, 11:10am, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40, 11:00pm; Sat, Sun, 11:10am,
1:25, 3:50, 10:00pm; Mon, 11:10am, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40, 11:00pm; Tue, 11:10am,
1:25, 3:50, 10:00pm; Wed, 11:10am, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15pm; Thu (4/24), 11:10am,
1:25, 3:50, 10:00pm
Young@Heart: 11:05am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday
matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and chil-
dren aged infant to 6 years old.
TV Party: *Battlestar Galactica:* Fri, 12mid
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** Fri-Sat, 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45, 11:55; Sun, 12:45, 3:45,
7:00, 9:45; Mon, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45; Tue, 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45;
Wed-Thu (4/24), 3:45, 7:00, 9:45
Leatherheads: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:50; Sat, 1:10, 4:05, 9:50; Tue, 1:15, 4:10,
7:05, 9:50; Wed, 4:10, 7:05, 9:50; Thu (4/24), 4:10, 7:05
TV @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (4/24), 10:00pm
Parents Afternoon Out: Sat, 2:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
***Street Kings:** Fri-Sun, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05; Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05; Tue, 1:45, 4:30,
7:30, 10:05; Wed-Thu (4/24), 4:30, 7:30, 10:05
21: Fri-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:15; Mon, 4:00, 7:20, 10:15; Tue, 1:00, 4:00, 7:20,
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Dark Matter: 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:50, 9:55
Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day: 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
Smart People: 12:45, 2:55, 5:15, 7:45, 10:05
Under the Same Moon: 12:05, 2:35, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45
Where in the World Is Osama Bin Laden?: 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50
Young@Heart: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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88 Minutes: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 9:55am, 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:00, 7:15,
8:30, 9:45, 11:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45,
11:00
Leatherheads: Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20pm;
Sun-Thu (4/24), 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20
Nim's Island: Fri-Sun, 10:20am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:30, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
Prom Night (closed captioned): Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:25, 10:35pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:25, 10:35
The Ruins: 1:20, 6:10, 10:55
Smart People: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 1:50, 4:00, 6:15, 8:35, 10:50pm;
Sun-Thu (4/24), 1:50, 4:00, 6:15, 8:35, 10:50
Stop-Loss: Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 3:35, 8:20pm; Sun-Thu (4/24), 3:35, 8:20
Street Kings: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:35, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45pm;
Sun-Thu (4/24), 12:35, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45
Superhero Movie: 3:30, 5:40
21: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 11:00, 12:50, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 11:00pm;
Sun-Thu (4/24), 12:50, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 11:00
Under the Same Moon: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:30,
3:00, 5:30, 7:55, 10:25pm; Mon-Tue, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:55, 10:25; Wed, 12:15,
2:30, 4:45; Thu (4/24), 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:55, 10:25

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.
***88 Minutes:** Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30,
10:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 2:10, 3:10, 4:30, 5:30, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 9:55;
Sat-Sun, 12:00, 12:45, 2:10, 3:10, 4:30, 5:30, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 9:55;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:10, 3:10, 4:30, 5:30, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 9:55
Drillbit Taylor: 2:20, 4:50, 7:40
***The Forbidden Kingdom:** Fri, 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:10,
7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** Fri, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:30,
5:15, 8:00, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40
Leatherheads: 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
Nim's Island: Fri, 3:00, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 3:00, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 3:00, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20
***Prom Night:** Fri, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

The Ruins: 10:10pm
***Street Kings:** Fri, 2:40, 5:20, 8:05, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:40, 5:20, 8:05,
10:35pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:40, 5:20, 8:05, 10:35
Superhero Movie: Fri, 2:05, 4:20; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 2:05, 4:20pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:05, 4:20
21: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu (4/24), 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
Vantage Point: 7:10, 9:40

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FANDANGO.
***88 Minutes:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:35, 4:20, 7:00
The Bank Job: Fri-Sun, 12:40, 3:45, 6:30, 9:30; Mon-Thu (4/24), 3:45, 6:30
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 12:05, 1:30, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:50, 9:05pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:30, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:50
Drillbit Taylor: Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:10, 4:55
***The Forbidden Kingdom:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:45, 4:25, 7:10
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:55, 4:35, 7:20
Leatherheads: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:05, 4:50, 7:35
Nim's Island: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:40, 4:35,
7:05
***Prom Night:** Fri-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:30, 5:00, 7:25
The Ruins: Fri-Sun, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 7:40pm
***Street Kings:** Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:40; Mon-Thu (4/24), 3:30, 6:45
Superhero Movie: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 1:35, 4:10, 6:40, 9:00pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:35, 4:10, 6:40
21: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30
***Under the Same Moon:** Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:15, 5:05, 7:45
Vantage Point: Fri-Sun, 7:50, 10:05; Mon-Thu (4/24), 7:50pm

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock),
512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri, 4:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 4:10, 9:40pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 4:10, 9:40
***The Bucket List:** Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30,
10:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
Junco: 3:10, 7:15
National Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fri, 2:15, 5:10, 8:10; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:15, 5:10,
8:10pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:15, 5:10, 8:10
***Penelope:** Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:10pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:10
***Semi-Pro:** Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:30, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30
The Spiderwick Chronicles: Fri, 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:20, 4:00,
7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
***Step Up 2 the Streets:** Fri, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10,
9:50pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
***27 Dresses:** Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45,
10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:20

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
***88 Minutes:** Fri, 1:20, 3:50, 7:30, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:20, 3:50, 7:30,
10:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:20, 3:50, 7:30, 10:15
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 2:40, 3:30, 5:00, 7:35, 9:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:00am,
10:40, 12:20, 2:40, 3:30, 5:00, 7:35, 9:10, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:40, 3:30,
5:00, 7:35, 9:10, 10:00
Drillbit Taylor: Fri, 12:50, 3:40, 6:30; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 12:50, 3:40, 6:30pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:50, 3:40, 6:30
***The Forbidden Kingdom:** Fri, 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:15, 7:05, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30;
Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 11:40, 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:15, 7:05, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:15, 7:05, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 2:00,
4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
Leatherheads: Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15,
10:05pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:05
Nim's Island: Fri, 1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
***Prom Night:** Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45
The Ruins: 9:20pm
***Smart People:** Fri, 2:05, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:05, 4:30, 7:25,
9:55pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:05, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55
***Street Kings:** Fri, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50,
10:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25
Superhero Movie: 1:15, 6:40
10,000 B.C.: Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40
21: Fri, 1:10, 4:05, 7:10, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 1:10, 4:05, 7:10, 10:10pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:10, 4:05, 7:10, 10:10

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
***88 Minutes:** 12:55, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10
Horton Hears a Who!: 12:35, 1:35, 3:45, 6:35, 7:45, 9:45
***The Forbidden Kingdom:** 12:50, 1:40, 3:40, 4:40, 6:45, 7:30, 9:35, 10:30
***Forgetting Sarah Marshall:** 12:35, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50
Leatherheads: 1:10, 4:25, 7:15, 10:25
Nim's Island: 12:30, 3:25, 7:00, 9:40
***Prom Night:** 1:20, 4:10, 7:25, 10:10
The Ruins: Fri-Wed, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20; Thu (4/24), 1:30, 4:15
***Smart People:** 1:25, 3:50, 7:35, 10:15
***Street Kings:** 12:40, 3:35, 6:50, 10:00
Superhero Movie: 4:05, 9:55
21: 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 10:05
***Under the Same Moon:** 1:00, 3:55, 7:05, 9:40

DOBBE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.
Box Elder: Mon, 7:30pm
The First Saturday in May: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 7:10, 9:40
The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 7:00, 9:30
In Bruges: Fri, 7:20pm; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 7:20; Tue-Thu (4/24), 7:20pm
Planet B-Boy: Fri-Sat, 4:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (4/24), 9:50pm
Zombie Strippers: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 7:30, 10:00

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under
18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.
88 Minutes: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 11:59; Sun-Thu (4/24), 12:05, 2:30,
4:55, 7:20, 9:45
Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:10,
5:20, 7:30, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00,
12mid; Sat, 11:30am, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 12mid;
Sun, 11:30am, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu
(4/24), 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15, 11:50; Sat, 10:10am,
12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15, 11:50pm; Sun, 10:10am, 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45,
10:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15
Nim's Island: Fri, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30, 11:40; Sat, 10:30am, 12:50, 3:00,
5:10, 7:20, 9:30, 11:40pm; Sun, 10:30am, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
Prom Night: Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40,
7:05, 9:10, 11:20pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10
The Ruins: Fri, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40, 11:45; Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20,
7:30, 9:40, 11:45pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40pm;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
Street Kings: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid;
Mon-Thu (4/24), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
21: Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35, 12mid; Sat, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35, 12mid;
Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (4/24), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and
Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.
88 Minutes: 12:00, 12:30, 2:35, 3:05, 5:05, 5:35, 7:35, 8:05, 10:10, 10:40
Bratz: Girlz Really Rock: Sat, 10:00am
Horton Hears a Who!: 12:15, 2:40, 4:50, 6:55, 9:35
The Forbidden Kingdom: 11:45am, 12:15, 2:20, 3:00, 4:55, 6:50, 7:30, 9:30, 10:05pm
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 11:50

watching Curtis and company boogying down to the theme song. *Prom Night*: Everything is so not all right.— Marc Savlov

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

STREET KINGS

D: David Ayer; with Keanu Reeves, Forest Whitaker, Hugh Laurie, Chris Evans, Martha Higareda, Terry Crews, Jay Mohr, Cedric the Entertainer. (R, 109 min.)

Dirty cops are the kings of the L.A. streets, and no one knows that better than James Ellroy, the crime novelist who wrote the story on which this film's screenplay is based, and for which he receives credit with Kurt Wimmer and Jamie Moss. It's a tangled, gritty story full of gunfire, blood, and vicious men (both on the side of the law and against it), and, for the most part, it's an absorbing *policier*. Curiously, the often affectless Reeves is well-cast as Tom Ludlow, a vice detective whose placid exterior cloaks a volatile temper that his captain (Whitaker) puts to good use whenever he needs a mad dog to take care of business using methods best kept under cover from the public eye. Like Dirty Harry, Ludlow functions better without things like Miranda laws and probable cause getting in his way, but he also does the kind of thankless tasks that makes him indispensable to his higher-ups who are willing to dispense with questions if Ludlow brings their messes to tidy conclusions. All that matters is what the situation looks like, how it's written up

OFFICIAL SELECTION
TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL
2007

BEST DOCUMENTARY
SANBAR FILM FESTIVAL
2007

SPECIAL JURY AWARD
AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL
2007

WINNER
AUDIENCE AWARD
BURBANK FILM FESTIVAL
2008

BEST DOCUMENTARY JURY
CORNERSTONE
BURBANK FILM FESTIVAL
2008

WINNER
HBO FILMS
PRODUCER AWARD
2008

the first saturday
in may

"WONDERFUL"
- New York Post

"RIVETING"
- Washington Post

"RICH AND FUNNY"
- Fort Worth Star-Telegram

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ALAMO
DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
— DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS —

MASTER PANCAKE
PRESENTS
PLANET OF THE APES
FRI, APR 18 @ RITZ
SAT, APR 19 @ S. LAMAR

SUPER HIGH ME
Free 4/20 show at 4:20p
Thurs, 4/24 at 7p
At the Ritz

NEGATIVLAND
LIVE IN CONCERT
FRI & SAT
9:30P @ THE RITZ

YOUNG @ HEART
OPENS FRI - LAMAR

ALAMO RITZ THEATRE - 320 E 6TH ST

THU, APR 17	SMART PEOPLE BILL & TED EXCELLENT ADV QUOTE-ALONG THE NEW WAVE SINGALONG TERROR THURS: THE CAR	700 700 930 MIDNIGHT
FRI, APR 18	SMART PEOPLE SUPER HIGH ME MASTER PANCAKE PLANET OF THE APES NEGATIVLAND LIVE IN CONCERT	445 700 955 420 645 930
SAT, APR 19	SMART PEOPLE BE KIND REWIND THE THING NEGATIVLAND LIVE IN CONCERT	215 445 700 955 145 730 415 930
SUN, APR 20	SMART PEOPLE THE THING PLANET OF THE APES SUPER HIGH ME FREE 4/20 SHOW! SUPER FUN MONKEY BASH 6	215 730 955 145 930 415 420 700
MON, APR 21	SMART PEOPLE THE THING S2 MUSIC MON: HEIMA	730 955 700 1000
TUES, APR 22	SMART PEOPLE MASTER PANCAKE DAY AFTER TOMORROW THE THING	700 930 1000
WEDS, APR 23	SMART PEOPLE HRC Presents BEAT FILM: DESOLATION ANGELS MICHAEL JACKSON: THRILL THE WORLD PT 3 SUPER HIGH ME FREE WEIRD WEDS: THE GUY FROM HARLEM	730 700 930 955 MIDNIGHT
THU, APR 24	SMART PEOPLE SUPER HIGH ME THE NEW WAVE SINGALONG TERROR THURS: ONE DARK NIGHT	700 930 700 915 MIDNIGHT

ALAMO
DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS

LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES
(103 & LAKECREEK PARKWAY)

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM
(12:15 3:00)
7:15 10:05

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL
(12:20 3:15)
7:20 10:15

STREET KINGS
(12:35 3:25)
7:10 10:10

LEATHERHEADS
(12:05 3:05)
7:05/ 10:00

PROM NIGHT
(12:10 3:30)
7:25/ 9:55

SMART PEOPLE
(12:20 3:20)
7:30 10:20

THE BANK JOB
(3:10) 7:45/

() MATINEE
< > NO SHOW WEDNESDAY
/ / NO SHOW THURSDAY
ALL TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS

HORTON HEARS A WHO!
(12:00) 7:00/

TROMATIC THURSDAYS
PERIOD PIECE THUR APRIL 17TH 10PM
FREE ADMISSION

JAY AND SILENT BOB STRIKE BACK
MIDNIGHT
4/19 & 4/20

SUPER HIGH ME
comedian Doug Benson documents his
30 day marijuana binge to see its
true effects on the human body
4/20/08 7:30pm free admission

AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS
2 DAYS 4/24/08
IN APRIL 7:30
MORE INFO @ DRAFTHOUSE.COM

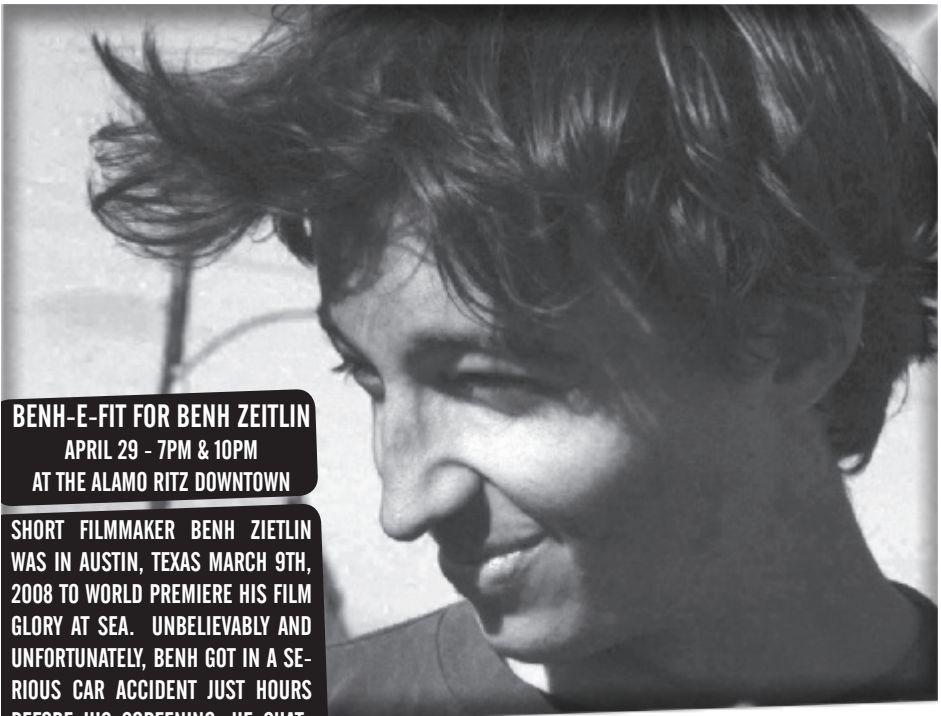
QUANTUM HOOPS
FOLLOWS THE 2006
CALTECH BASKETBALL
TEAM IN THEIR QUEST
TO WIN ONE GAME
DIRECTOR RICK GREENWALD IN ATTENDANCE
4/24/08 7:30PM

CELEBRATE THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUPERMAN'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN COMICS
WE ARE SCREENING THE 1978 VERSION
SUNDAY 4/27 1PM AND 7:30PM

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BENH-E-FIT FOR BENH ZEITLIN
APRIL 29 - 7PM & 10PM
AT THE ALAMO RITZ DOWNTOWN

SHORT FILMMAKER BENH ZIETLIN WAS IN AUSTIN, TEXAS MARCH 9TH, 2008 TO WORLD PREMIERE HIS FILM GLORY AT SEA. UNBELIEVABLY AND UNFORTUNATELY, BENH GOT IN A SERIOUS CAR ACCIDENT JUST HOURS BEFORE HIS SCREENING. HE SHATTERED HIS HIP (WHICH HAS BEEN REPLACED), BROKE HIS PELVIS, AND SPRAINED BOTH HIS ANKLES. WHILE HIS WAS SHOWING TO AN ENTHUSIAS-TIC CROWD, BENH WAS IN SURGERY.

HELP FILMMAKER BENH ZEITLIN!

HIS MEDICAL BILLS HAVE ADDED UP TO ABOUT \$80,000!

PLEASE COME AND CHECK OUT AN AWESOME COLLECTION OF SHORT FILMS BENH AND HIS COLLABORATORS HAVE WORKED ON IN THE LAST FEW YEARS AND HELP THIS TALENTED FILMMAKER GET BACK OUT THERE AND MAKE MORE!!

SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

THE UNFORSEEN	1110*	125*	350	615	840*	1100*
LEATHERHEADS	1100*	140*	425	715*	955*	
YOUNG AT HEART •	1105*	135*	415	705	945	
FORGET SARAH MARSH •	1120*	200*	440	740	1040	
HORTON HEARS A WHO	1145*	220*	455*			
THE GRAND			450*	745		
THE UNFORSEEN		350*	400*	710*	1000	
SEX & DEATH 101			1025*	1030*		
MASTER POKA PLANET OF THE APES	930			MIDNIGHT	(Sat)	
AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS				NOON	(Sun)	
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Sat. 11:30 12:00 2:00 3:30 4:30 5:00 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:00 11:59
Sun. 11:30 12:00 2:00 3:30 4:30 5:00 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:00
Mon. - Thu. 12:00 2:00 3:30 4:30 5:00 7:00 7:30 9:30 10:00
88 MINUTES (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) Fri. 12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15 11:50
Sat. 10:10 12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15 11:50
Sun. 10:10 12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15
Mon. - Thu. 12:35 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:15

STREET KINGS (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

PROM NIGHT (PG-13) Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20
Sat. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20
Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10
Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10

NIM'S ISLAND (PG) Fri. 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30 11:40
Sat. 10:30 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30 11:40
Sun. 10:30 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30
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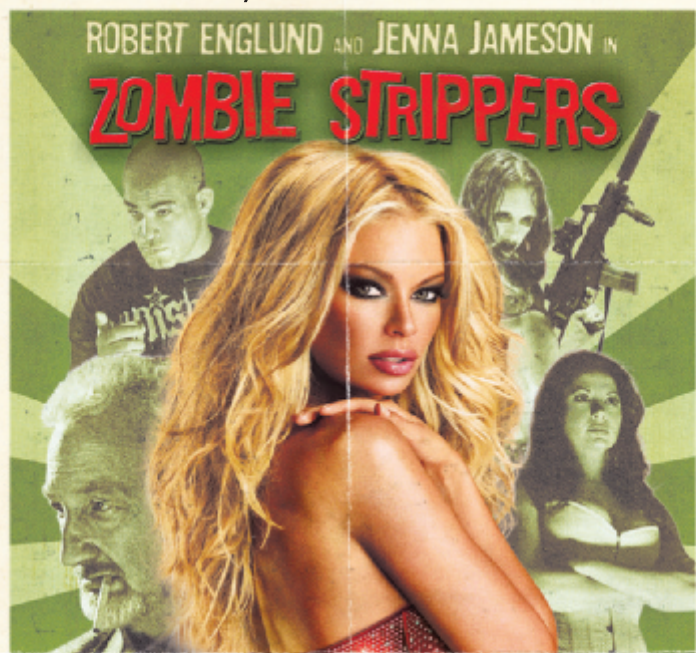
THE RUINS (R) Fri. 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40 11:45
Sat. 11:00 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40 11:45
Sun. 11:00 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40
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DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G) Fri. & Mon. -
Thu. 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40
Sat. & Sun. 11:00 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40

21 (PG-13) Fri. 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:35 11:59
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All films are subtitled in English. Schedule is subject to change.

DATE	VENUE	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM
Wed Mier 16	Paramount								Friends of the Festival Reception		- SEPTIEMBRE (SEPTEMBERS)		Opening Night After Party @ Mexic-Arte	
Thu Jue 4/17	Regal Metropolitan 10									- XXY		- MORIRSE ESTÁ EN HEBREO (MY MEXICAN SHIVAH)		
	Regal Metropolitan 11									- JC CHÁVEZ		- REINALDA DEL CARMEN, MI MAMÁ Y YO (REINALDA DEL CARMEN, MY MOTHER AND ME)		
Fri Vie 4/18	Regal Metropolitan 10									- DÉFICIT (DEFICIT)		- DEZ REAIS (TEN REAIS) - NÃO POR ACASO (NOT BY CHANCE)		Brazil Night @ Copa
	Regal Metropolitan 11									- LA SANTA MUERTE (SAINT DEATH)		- AMERICAN GIRLS - LA AMERICANA (THE AMERICAN)		
Sat Sab 4/19	MACC		- EMERGENCIA		- BEATLAB									
	501 Screening Room		- JEFE DE JEFES, LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE	- DNN: DEATH NEWS NETWORK - LAS REDADAS DE NEW HAVEN (THE NEW HAVEN RAIDS) - OAXACA, EL PODER DE LA COMUNA (THE POWER OF OAXACA'S COMMUNE)		- WABAK - DESPUES DE LA NEBLINA (WHEN THE CLOUDS CLEAR)		- AGAINST THE GRAIN: AN ARTIST'S SURVIVAL GUIDE TO PERU						
	Regal Metropolitan 10				- RIO 40 GRAUS (RIO 100 DEGREES F)		- NOEL POETA DA VILA (NOEL, THE SAMBA POET)		- CORTO METRAJES DE FICCION 1 (NARRATIVE SHORTS 1)		- RIO, ZONA NORTE (RIO, NORTHERN ZONE)		- EL ASESINO ENTRE NOSOTROS (THE MURDERER AMONG US)	
	Regal Metropolitan 11				- CIRCUNSTANCIAS ESPECIALES (SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES)		- CORTO METRAJES DOCUMENTALES (DOCUMENTARY SHORTS)		- LOS PUÑOS DE UNA NACION (THE FISTS OF A NATION)		- POR MIS HIJOS (FOR THEM) - HUOS DE LA GUERRA (CHILDREN OF THE WAR)			
Sun Dom 4/20	501 Screen- ing Room		- CARTONE- ROS	- L'AMENDEMENT (THE AMENDMENT) - UN POCOITO DE TANTA VERDAD (A LITTLE BIT OF SO MUCH TRUTH)	- SECRETOS DE LA LUCHA (SECRETS OF THE STRUGGLE)	- TING - MAKING THE RIVER								
	Regal Metropolitan 10				- QUEMAR LAS NAVES (BURNING BRIDGES)		- VIDAS SECAS (BARREN LIVES)		- CORTO METRAJES DE FICCION 2 (NARRATIVE SHORTS 2)		- LA PARABÓLICA (THE SATELLITE DISH) - LA SEÑAL (THE SIGN)			
	Regal Metropolitan 11				- THE OTHER SIDE - MEXIPHOBIA		- CON EL TOQUE DE CHAVETA (WITH A STROKE OF THE CHAVETA) - JC CHÁVEZ		- ILUMINADOS (ENLIGHTENED)		- O AMULETO DE OGUM (THE AMULET OF OGUM)			
Mon Lun 4/21	Regal Metropolitan 14						- TENDA DOS MILAGRES (TENT OF MIRACLES)		- DÉFICIT (DEFICIT)		- XXY			
	Alamo Drafthouse S. Lamar											-9:45pm: MORIRSE ESTÁ EN HEBREO (MY MEXICAN SHIVAH)		
Tue Mar 4/22	Regal Metropolitan 14						- MEMÓRIAS DO CÁRCERE (PRISON MEMORIES)		- THE WANNABE - 3 AMÉRICAS (3 AMERICAS)		- HUOS DE LA GUERRA (CHILDREN OF THE WAR)			
	Alamo Drafthouse S. Lamar											-9:45pm: MALOS HABITOS (BAD HABITS)		
Wed Mier 4/23	Regal Metropolitan 14						- A TERCEIRA MARGEM DO RIO (THE THIRD BANK OF THE RIVER)		- O CHEIRO DO RALO (DRAINED)		- LA EDAD DE LA PESETA (THE SILLY AGE)			
	Alamo Drafthouse S. Lamar											- 9:45pm: COMO ERA GOSTOSO O MEU FRANCÊS (HOW TASTY WAS MY LITTLE FRENCHMAN)		
Thu Jue 4/24	Alamo Drafthouse S. Lamar									- COCHOCHI				

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This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Nanking

Nanking (2007) D: Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman. (NR, 89 min.) **Strauss Center International Security Film Series.** This vivid documentary account of the Japanese “rape of Nanking” in 1937 includes the reading of diaries, letters, and other accounts of the exceptionally vicious invasion, written by the expats and survivors. Co-director Dan Sturman will be in attendance for a Q&A following the film. (*) @Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), Tue., 7pm; free.



ZOMBIE STRIPPERS

D: Jay Lee; with Robert Englund, Jenna Jameson, Roxy Saint, Joey Medina, Shamron Moore, Penny Drake, Jennifer Holland. (R, 94 min.) The filmmakers score an A+ for the title, a pop-culture mash-up guaranteed to tantalize and evoke a knowing laugh. It's reflective of the movie's tongue-in-cheek tone, which takes neither zombies nor strippers too seriously but exploits their commercial possibilities to the max. Appearing nationwide in about 400 theatres one week before its release to DVD, *Zombie Strippers* has two big assets going for it, apart from its amusing title: the casting of horror vet Englund (Freddy Krueger, in the flesh) as the proprietor of Rhino's, the underground strip club where most of the action takes place, and porn star Jameson (also in the flesh) as Rhino's star attraction. Writer-director Lee's story has some conspiratorial aspects, kicking off as it does in the fourth term of George W. Bush's presidency. A flattering perspective might see this film double-billed with another movie in current release, *Stop-Loss*: Like that film, *Zombie Strippers* is set into motion by the

government's need to replenish the number of troops sent to Iraq, but instead of a stop-loss policy, government scientists here devise a chemo virus that reanimates dead soldiers, a plan which, like so many government plans, goes awry. A zombie escapes containment and hurtles into the dark abyss of Rhino's in Sartre, Neb., a club where everything has an absurdist/existentialist tinge, including the name of its owner, Ian Essko (Englund). Jameson's Kat is the first stripper to turn zombie, but the irony is that the transformation only increases her allure and the club's business. Since all the other girls want to be like Kat (and I guess that's where the film sees itself as an echo of *Rhinoceros*, Ionesco's famed play about conformity), they all turn zombie and start making money hand over tit. In addition to lots of zombie chomping, the film has lots of stripping action and can also boast the appearance of Ultimate Fighting figure Tito Ortiz. The action can be bloody, but is mostly routine. Ultimately, the film's most eye-catching special effects are reserved for bikini waxes and implants. — Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Dobie

Goodbye, Dragon Inn

Goodbye, Dragon Inn (2003) D: Tsai Ming-liang; with Lee Kang-sheng, Chen Shiang-chyi, Mitamura Kiyonobu, Miao Tien. (NR, 82 min.) **Austin Film Society: Ascending Dragon – Films of Greater China.** The Chinese director of strange yet compelling films *I Don't Want to Sleep Alone* and *The Hole* weaves this story about our attraction to and hesitation before the moving images on our movie screens. The story takes place during the final screening of a kung fu classic at a dilapidated Taiwanese movie theatre that will subsequently close. All the characters fumble to find something in the dark. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tue., 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.



First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

★ THE COUNTERFEITERS

D: Stefan Ruzowitzky; with Karl Markovics, August Diehl, David Striesow, Martin Brambach. (R, 98 min., subtitled) Morality is the subject of this Austrian film, which won this year's Oscar for Best Foreign Film. Salomon “Sally” Sorowitsch (Markovics) is a Russian Jew in Germany before the Second World War who puts his keen artistic eye and hand to use as a forger; he has no desire to make art when making money is so much more lucrative. These scruples serve him well after he is busted for counterfeiting and sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, where he is made the head of a special unit of currency counterfeiters, in a project based on the true story of Operation Bernhard, in which the Germans planned to destabilize international economies by flooding the market with bogus British pound notes and American dollars. The prisoners' dilemma over whether to assist the Germans and thereby ensure their continued survival is the heart of the movie, which keeps the focus on moral imperatives rather than the physical ravages of the camps. (04/11/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Arbor

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO!

D: Steve Martino, Jimmy Hayward; with the voices of Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Carol Burnett, Seth Rogen, Will Arnett, Isla Fisher, Dan Fogler, Amy Poehler, Jaime Pressly. (G, 88 min.) For my money, I've never seen anything much wrong with the animated Chuck Jones version of this Seuss tale, made for TV in 1970. But everything needs an update, I suppose, and this new animated feature does the job nicely, staying true to the playfulness of the Seussian rhymes and messages while ably adding in new bits of business to expand Seuss' verse to feature length. Carrey's general tendency toward comic mania is gently toned down, allowing the rubbery elephant Horton to seem more a lovable goofball than a frenzied nut job, and Carell's readings as the Mayor of Who-ville are perfectly on target. Twentieth Century Fox's animation is in the mold of their previous films *Ice Age* and *Robots*: a nice blend of rudimentary and inventive touches. The story's key refrain, “A person's a person no matter how small,” speaks directly to children's experience of the world; thus, this new movie should enjoy a long life. (03/14/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

STONES SCORSESE SHINE A LIGHT

SHANGRI-LA ENTERTAINMENT epi PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13 (BRIEF STRONG LANGUAGE, DRUG REFERENCES AND SMOKING) ShineALightMovie.com Copyright © 2008 by Paramount Classics, a Division of Paramount Pictures. Shine A Light, LLC and Grand Entertainment (Row) LLC. All Rights Reserved. IMAX CLASSICS

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DRILLBIT TAYLOR

D: Steven Brill; with Owen Wilson, Leslie Mann, Danny McBride, Josh Peck, Troy Gentile. (PG-13, 102 min.)

This is a dispiritingly mediocre tween comedy from some very talented people who appear to be experiencing a delayed sophomore slump. With Judd Apatow's (*Knocked Up*) name hovering comedy-god-like over the titles and Seth Rogen (*Superbad*) credited as co-writer – not to mention the dependably dopey Owen Wilson as the titular borer du jour – you'd expect the laffs to positively gush forth. Nuh-uh. *Drillbit Taylor* is a strange hybrid of Apatow's über-cool TV series *Freaks and Geeks* and 1980s film *My Bodyguard*. The film is such an obvious rehashing of old ideas and laugh lines that it borders on the insulting. Hartley, Gentile, and Dorfman play a trio of freshman high schoolers who hire Wilson's ostensibly ex-Army maniac to protect them from the local bully (Frost). Apatow and Rogen should note for future reference that stealing from the best doesn't count for squat if you're the best in the first place, although Wilson does get some juicy throwaway lines. (03/21/2008) – Marc Savlov
★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Lakeline

THE GRAND

D: Zak Penn; with Woody Harrelson, Cheryl Hines, Chris Parnell, Ray Romano, Dennis Farina, David Cross, Michael McKean, Richard Kind, Gabe Kaplan, Werner Herzog. (R, 104 min.)

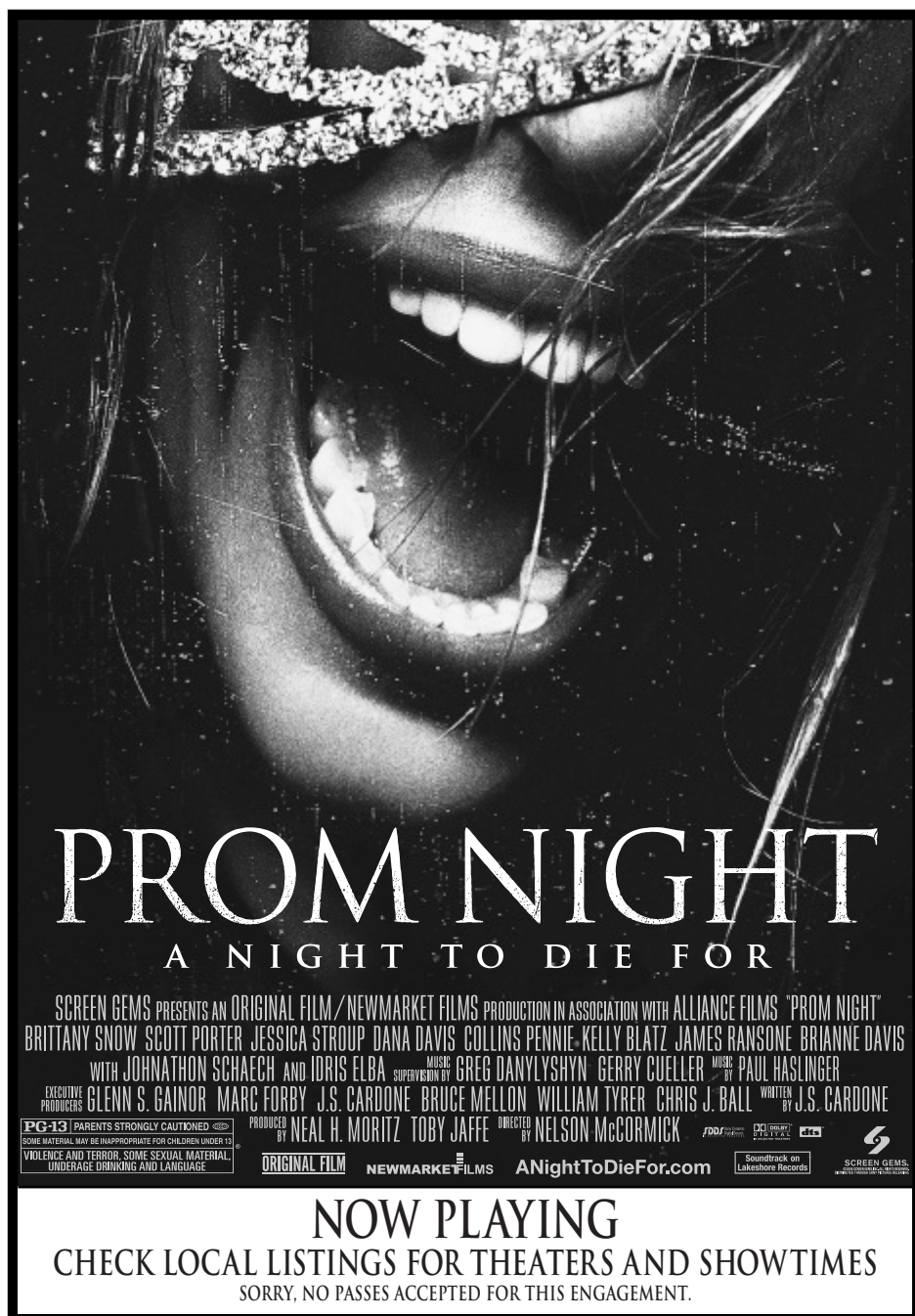
There's a lot of truly hilarious material in *The Grand*, a semiscripted, semi-improvised movie

about several characters who are competing in a Las Vegas championship poker tournament. A 20-minute package of those funny bits would be priceless, but at an hour and 45 minutes, *The Grand* is stuffed with too many unproductive improv and actual poker-playing to be of sustained interest. Spoofing the recent phenomenon of televised poker tournaments (of both the professional and celebrity varieties), *The Grand* aims to do for poker what *Best in Show* did for canine competitions, but director Penn's film unfortunately takes home no blue ribbons. Consisting mainly of character quirks and backstories, *The Grand* has very little plot to speak of but enough characters to populate at least three separate movies. But really, why worry about measly details when deliciously funny moments are scattered about with such carefree abandon? (04/04/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

LEATHERHEADS

D: George Clooney; with George Clooney, Renée Zellweger, John Krasinski. (PG-13, 114 min.)

Nearing 50, Clooney is still almost improbably puckish, but this picture – his third directorial effort – isn't quite as fleet. Set in the 1920s, when the nation was still recovering from the Great War, *Leatherheads* charts the awkward birth of professional football. *Leatherheads* comes practically gift-wrapped in goodwill – it's a celebration of an American pastime (if not the American pastime) and a loving nod to the screwballs of yore. The film is appropriately scored, well-acted, and possessing of a handful of truly transportive moments.



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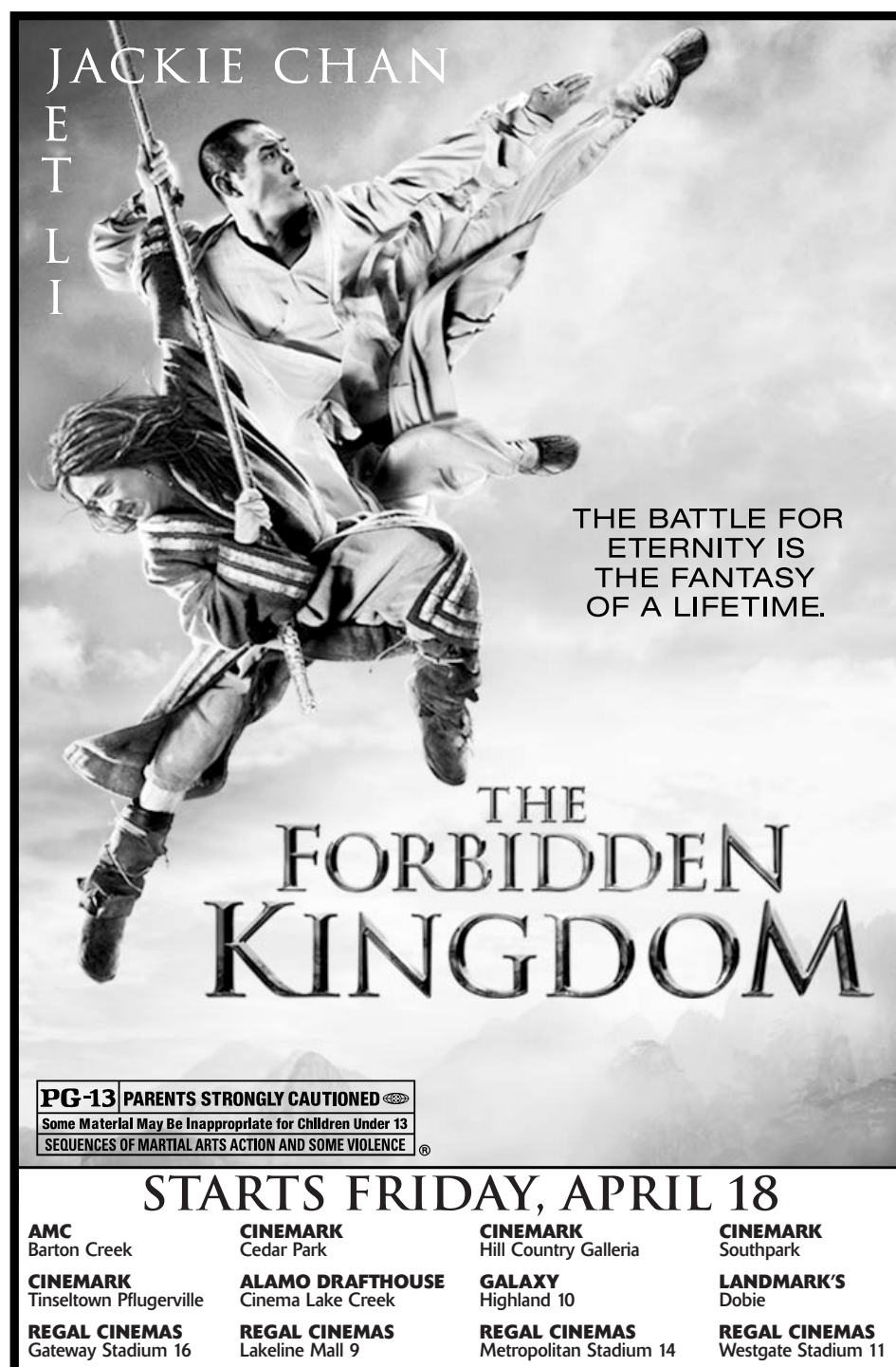
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Beat Films: Desolation Angels

Beat Films: Desolation Angels **Harry Ransom Center: Beat Film Series.** The final program in the series, which is presented in conjunction with the HRC’s exhibition “On the Road With the Beats,” screens Kenneth Anger’s seminal “Scorpio Rising” (1964) and “Kustom Kar Kommandos” (1965), along with the Roger Corman-directed feature *A Bucket of Blood* (1959). @Alamo Ritz, Wednesday, 7pm.



It’s awfully agreeable – so why doesn’t it entirely work? I think it’s a question of comic timing. This kind of backward-glancing, even ga-ga-ing, material begs for barmy, and barmy begs for no brakes, but *Leatherheads* takes a full half-hour of stops and starts to find its footing. Even then, it skips from fizzy water to flat tap from scene to scene. (04/04/2008) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

NIM’S ISLAND
D: Jennifer Flackett, Mark Levin; with Abigail Breslin, Jodie Foster, Gerard Butler, Michael Carman. (PG, 95 min.)
Boys adventure stories are a dime (store novel) a dozen, but girls adventure tales are rare things indeed. *Nim’s Island*, which is adapted from Wendy Orr’s young-adult novel, comes to the rescue with its South Seas setting and message to girls of all ages about the need to become the heroes of their own life stories. The film details the parallel adventures of Nim Rusoe (Breslin), a motherless girl who lives on an otherwise deserted South Pacific atoll with her scientist father (Butler), and Alexandra Rover (Foster), a San Francisco agoraphobe who writes adventure novels about the escapades of her imaginary alter ego, Alex Rover (an Indiana Jones-type fellow who is also incarnated by Butler). It’s lovely to watch Foster in this role, taking a comedic breather from all the high-tension thrillers she’s been appearing in of late. Breslin tones down the perky effusiveness of her *Little Miss Sunshine* character and proves her versatility. (04/04/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

PLANET B-BOY
D: Benson Lee. (NR, 101 min.)
As Lee’s far-flung doc makes abundantly clear, breakdancing long ago went competitively global. Today, American crews have to battle alongside international rivals such as Japan’s Angel Dust Breakers, French-based the Family (whose youngest associate, Lil Kev, looks to be all of 10 years old), and South Korea’s legendary Last for One. What they all have in common, as Quik, a member of Japan’s Ichigeki Crew, explains, is a passion for the border-busting power dance, movement as a *movement*, freedom of expression, wild-style: “After I started breakdancing, I became more aware of my identity and open to other ways of thinking.” This from a post-teen, premillennial product of perpetually regimental Japanese society. Quik speaks worlds verbally, choreographically, and culturally. Which, nicely dovetailing, is what *Planet B-Boy* does as well, without getting bogged down in the South Bronx. It turns out globalization has its good points after all, and they’re sporting Chucks, Kangols, and post-Gomi DIY gear. (04/04/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★★★ Dobie

THE RUINS
D: Carter Smith; with Shawn Ashmore, Jena Malone, Jonathan Tucker, Laura Ramsey, Joe Anderson. (R, 97 min.)
The Ruins, based on Scott Smith’s bestselling horror novel, is a riff on the perils of leaving the main trail and venturing off on one’s own, especially if you’re young, white, and American. Medical student Jeff (Tucker) gets a highly specialized crash course in field surgery and why cell phones are fundamentally evil little *diabolus ex machinas* when he and girlfriend (Malone) and their best friends (Ransey and Ashmore) end up trapped atop

an ancient Mayan pyramid – along with a fellow German tourist – which harbors a dark, sinewy secret. Smith’s singularly bizarre novel managed what this film cannot: fear and sympathy. Stripped of the novel’s horror by its own overreliance on grisly imagery and a quartet of protagonists who you barely care about, this is not nearly as unique a horror film as it thinks it is or it could have been. (04/11/2008) – Marc Savlov
★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

RUN FATBOY RUN
D: David Schwimmer; with Simon Pegg, Thandie Newton, Hank Azaria, Dylan Moran, Harish Patel, India de Beaufort, Matthew Fenton. (PG-13, 95 min.)
Anyone hoping for the lean meat of the fast, furious, and riotously funny *Shaun of the Dead* or even the popcorn fancy of the lesser *Hot Fuzz* – both of which share with *Fatboy* the co-writer and star Simon Pegg – will do best to look elsewhere; this British rom com is all soft and ploddy, a by-the-numbers redemption tale that careens uncomfortably from sentimentality to stomach-turning sight gags. There are bits here and there that are genuinely funny, and there are certainly worse crimes in romantic comedy than forgettability. But what I can’t abide – along with, I suspect, countless other fans of Pegg’s collaborations with Edgar Wright and Nick Frost – is how utterly unlikable Pegg is rendered here. However, there’s enough blame here to pass around among first-time big-screen director Schwimmer, original scripter Michael Ian Black, and Pegg (who did the last pass and “Britishized” the screenplay, which was originally envisioned as American-set and -acted). (03/28/2008) – Kimberley Jones
★★ Metropolitan

SEX AND DEATH 101
D: Daniel Waters; with Simon Baker, Winona Ryder, Leslie Bibb, Tanc Sade, Patton Oswalt, Mindy Cohn, Dash Mihok, Neil Flynn, Thom Bishops, Corinne Reilly. (R, 100 min.)
Sex and Death 101 is a self-indulgent, snarky, scattershot mess through and through, from its opening shots of suave fast-food restaurateur Roderick Blank (Baker) wandering the streets clad in a smirk and an open-collared dress shirt, bragging about his ability to drive women to distraction, to its climax, which features a humbled Blank’s run-in with the mysterious Death Nell (Ryder), a sexual vigilante stalking predatorial, misogynistic, and just plain boorish men with some sort of coma-inducing anti-fairy dust. In between, all manner of nonsense occurs. First, Blank receives an anonymous e-mail listing not only the 29 women he’s slept with up until that point but the 72 others he’s going to sleep with before he dies. Then he discovers that the list originated from something called “the oracle,” which, like the brain behind *The Matrix*, made no sense to me whatsoever. Heaven help a writer who turns a philanderer into a blank. (04/11/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★ Alamo Drafthouse South

SMART PEOPLE
D: Noam Murro; with Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, Thomas Haden Church, Ellen Page, Ashton Holmes. (NR, 95 min.)
Lawrence Wetherhold (Quaid), a widowed professor at Carnegie Mellon University, is a guy who would be able to spell “dysfunctional” with ease but never recognize the word as a description of himself and his family. Lawrence is acerbic and demanding yet wholly disinterested in his students, family, and career. His daughter Vanessa (Page) is a high-school senior whose character traits are even worse than her old man’s. The film is the first feature effort for commercials director Murro and novelist-turned-screenwriter Mark Jude Poirier, who

Koyaanisqatsi

Koyaanisqatsi (1983) *D: Godfrey Reggio.* (NR, 87 min.) **Earth Day.** The worlds of the natural and the artificial are compared and contrasted in this non-narrative visual orgy. (*) @Terrazas Library, Friday, 3:30pm; free.



make a distinctive, if not entirely successful debut. Poirier’s language is often delicious, highlighted by barbs and dialogue that are as well-aimed as they are socially inappropriate, and Murro evidences none of the ADD flash that often makes commercials directors ill-equipped to handle character arcs. Yet there’s something amiss in *Smart People* that fails to get a fire going among any of the characters. (04/11/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

STOP-LOSS
D: Kimberly Peirce; with Ryan Phillippe, Abbie Cornish, Channing Tatum, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ciaran Hinds, Timothy Olyphant, Victor Rasuk, Rob Brown, Mammie Gummer, Josef Sommer, Alex Frost. (R, 112 min.)
Peirce’s second feature (her first was the accolade-magnet *Boys Don’t Cry*) opens smack-dab in the proverbial fog (or sand, actually) of war. Tikrit-based Staff Sgt. Brandon King (Phillippe) and the men in his squadron are headed home to the Lone Star State (much of the film was shot in and around Austin, doubling for Brazos), following a nasty sniper battle. Stop-losses almost immediately, King watches his fellow vets attempt to drink, drank, and skank their way back to some semblance of what was; King opts out, though, and goes AWOL with Michele (Cornish), the girlfriend of squaddie Shriver (Tatum), hoping to get to D.C. to plead his case with a potentially sympathetic senator. The road goes on forever, but somehow the party never starts. *Stop-Loss* does not deign to do what the audience may expect or want or need; just when it appears cut-and-dried, or locked and, especially, loaded, it turns out Peirce has the god-damn safety on. (03/28/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★★★ Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

SUPERHERO MOVIE
D: Craig Mazin; with Drake Bell, Leslie Nielsen, Sara Paxton, Christopher McDonald, Marion Ross, Kevin Hart, Brent Spiner, Jeffrey Tambor. (PG-13, 85 min.)
Mazin’s feature debut, *The Specials*, is a superhero satire that affectionately winks and nods at the whole concept of what superheroes do, if anything, on their days off. That said, his new parody, *Superhero Movie*, blows harder than Storm from *X-Men*. It’s a tonally confused comedy, which, for once, doesn’t go far enough comedically. Featuring an earnest performance from Bell – whose riff on Peter Parker/Spider-Man is very nearly note-perfect – and an appropriately scenery-devouring McDonald (voice of *The Iron Giant*’s G-man, Kent Mansley) as the supervillain Hourglass, *Superhero Movie* plays like a real (albeit really cheap) Marvel Universe knockoff that was shanghaied by the Wayans gang and then minimized by Reducto from *Harvey Birdman, Attorney at Law*. Even cameos from *Airplane!*-er Robert Hays and *Forbidden Planet*-er-cum-comedy-stalwart Nielson can’t supersize the yuks on what turns out to be a mere annoyance of a spoof. Bah, puny insect! (04/04/2008) – Marc Savlov
★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

21
D: Robert Luketic; with Jim Sturgess, Kate Bosworth, Kevin Spacey, Laurence Fishburne, Liza Lapira, Josh Gad, Aaron Yoo, Sam Golzari, Jacob Pitts, Jack McGee. (PG-13, 123 min.)
One might think that characters who have the mental quickness to count cards and take the Vegas blackjack tables for tens of thousands of dollars would also have the acumen to notice that some aspects of their caper just don’t add up. The filmmakers take a pass on character development in favor of fluttery Vegas montages of cards, lights, money, and pretty, young faces in thrall to the gods of self-made fortunes and striking it rich. Adapted from Ben Mezrich’s true account of similar events, *Bringing Down the House: The*

Inside Story of Six M.I.T. Students Who Took Vegas for Millions, the film shows little interest in the honest reasons why a Harvard Medical School admittee, who professes that he’s only in it for the \$300,000 needed to finance his education, just doesn’t apply for a student loan like everybody else. 21 shares with the Las Vegas mythos the same stale temptations: empty glitz and little substance. (03/28/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

U ME AUR HUM
D: Ajay Devgan; with Ajay Devgan, Kajol. (NR, 159 min., subtitled)
Not reviewed at press time. The director and co-writer also stars in this new Bollywood film about a love that grows deeper over time. (04/11/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

UNDER THE SAME MOON
D: Patricia Riggen; with Kate del Castillo, Eugenio Derbez, Mario Almada, Adrian Alonso, Isaac Bravo, Ernesto D’Alessio, Julie Dove, America Ferrera. (PG-13, 109 min., subtitled)
With the right set of eyes, anywhere can be heaven. Take the poor neighborhoods of East Los Angeles, for example: In the mind’s eye of 9-year-old Mexican Carlitos (Alonso), that concrete jungle of endless strip malls and fast-food restaurants is a wonderland. Four years ago, his mother, Rosario (del Castillo), left him in their small Mexican village to seek work as a domestic across the border and hasn’t been back since. Carlitos dreams of that Los Angeles barrio the way the Spanish conquistadors dreamed of El Dorado, so he resolves to make the perilous journey across the border and into America to reunite with his mother. As a work of dramatic fiction, *Under the Same Moon* isn’t anything to ring bells over. Its parallel stories of two lost souls seeking each other across geographical divides is never more than one small step away from mawkishness and cliché, and oftentimes less. But as a sociological study, it’s fascinating. (03/21/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★★ Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

★ **THE UNFORESEEN**
D: Laura Dunn. (NR, 88 min.)
At the heart of Dunn’s documentary – which is part history lesson and part anthropological study, part geological survey and part nature special (complete with profoundly gorgeous views of Barton Springs shot in the style of the film’s Co-Executive Producer Terrence Malick) – lies Austin developer Gary Bradley. Forgoing partisanship, she resists the temptation to demonize Bradley, instead looking at him as a man full of contradictions and pain. Building out from Bradley, she uses underwater shots of the Springs, chiaroscuro footage of the vast West Texas countryside (courtesy of local cinematographer Lee Daniel), expert scientific analysis, and interviews with some of the era’s most important players to tell a story that pushes front and center the conflicts that have come to define the American social identity: private property vs. community rights, individual liberties vs. corporate responsibility, growth vs. nature. The result is an expansive and ambivalent testament to human ingenuity, human intransigence, and nature’s endangered yet enduring power to move. (03/28/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

Check Film Listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

austinchronicle.com/film

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS ★ Movies 8

THE BANK JOB ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Hill Country Galleria

BE KIND REWIND ★★★ Alamo Ritz

THE BUCKET LIST ★★ Movies 8

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP ★★ Tinseltown South

IN BRUGES ★★★ Dobie

JUNO ★★★★★ Movies 8

MISS PETTIGREW LIVES FOR A DAY ★★★ Arbor

NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS ★★ Movies 8

NEVER BACK DOWN ★★★ Metropolitan

PENELOPE ★★ Movies 8

SEMI-PRO ★ Movies 8

SHUTTER ★ Tinseltown South

THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES ★★★ Movies 8, Tinseltown South

STEP UP 2 THE STREETS ★★ Movies 8

10,000 B.C. ★ CM Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

27 DRESSES ★★★ Movies 8

TYLER PERRY'S MEET THE BROWNS ★★ Millennium, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

VANTAGE POINT ★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria

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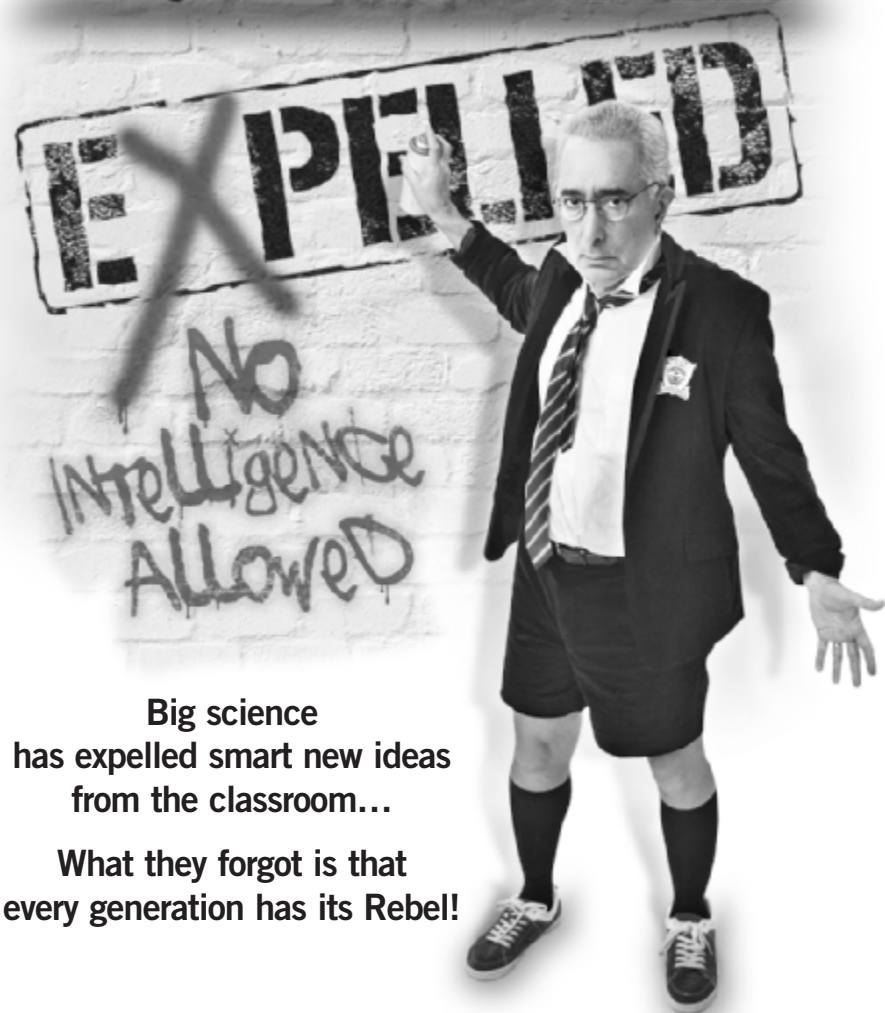
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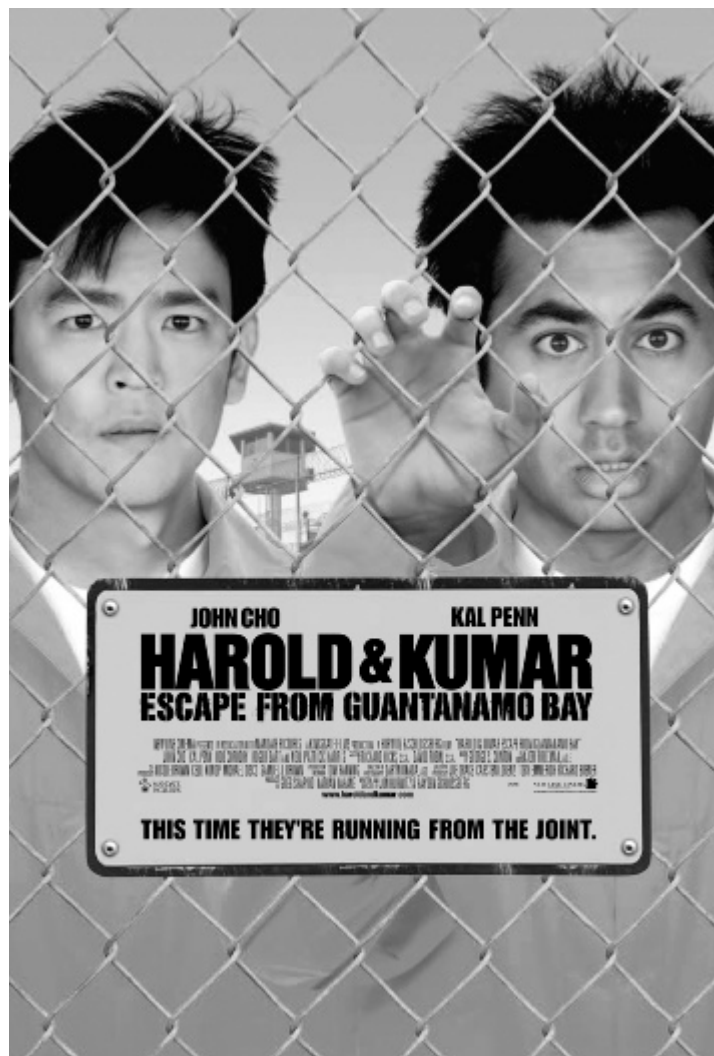
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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY ①⑦

199 Lives: The Travis Pastrana Story (2008) *D: Gregg Godfrey. (NR, 120 min.)* **NCM Fathom.** The motocross and rally race daredevil is screened in this movie, and Pastrana will also show-case an illustrated list of his “Top 10 Moments.” @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, 7pm.

Bill & Ted’s Excellent Adventure Quote-Along (1989) *D: Stephen Herek; with Keanu Reeves, Alex Winter, George Carlin. (PG, 90 min.)* @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

The Car (1977) *D: Elliot Silverstein; with James Brolin, Kathleen Lloyd, John Marley, R.G. Armstrong. (PG, 96 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** This car is possessed, and it’s not named Christine. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Just Can’t Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

Period Piece (2006) *D: Giuseppe Andrews; with Tyree. (NR, 80 min.)* **Tromatic Thursday.** Underground filmmaker Andrews delivers this camcorder-shot gross-out that features 90-year-old men in full-frontal nudity, talking Tater Tots, sex with teddy bears, and a French dwarf. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

SPACES

Dan in Real Life (2007) *D: Peter Hedges; with Steve Carell, Juliette Binoche, Dane Cook, Alison Pill, Brittany Robertson, Marlene Lawston, Dianne Wiest, John Mahoney, Emily Blunt, Norbert Leo Butz. (PG-13, 99 min.)* Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Kilowatt Ours (2004) *D: Jeff Barrie. (NR, 65 min.)* **Texas Clean Water and CLEAN.** Prepare for Earth Day with movie, panel, and music beginning at 6pm. @Ruta Maya, 6:45pm; \$5 suggested dona-tion.

Ovosodo (1997) *D: Paolo Virzi; with Edoardo Gabbriellini, Malcolm Lunghi, Matteo Campus, Nicoletta Braschi. (NR, 100 min.)* **Il Circolo Italiano.** In Italian, no subtitles. @MEZ B0.306 100 (base-ment of Mezes on the UT campus), 8pm; free.

Where Do the Children Play? (2008) *D: Christopher M. Cook. (NR, 60 min.)* **Austin Children in Nature Community.** The film examines the patterns of sprawl, congestion, and suburban development across America and how they impact children’s mental and physical health and devel-opment. Austin Children in Nature Community is a new group working to promote and create opportunities for unstructured, outdoor playtime for children and families in the Austin area. Reception and conversation afterward. @Mexican American Cultural Center, 7pm; free.

FRIDAY ①⑧

Battlestar Galactica *D: Ronald D. Moore; with Edward James Olmos, Mary McDonnell, Jamie Bamber, Katee Sackhoff. TV at the Alamo.* Two epi-sodes of the final season will screen back-to-back. Reserve tickets at www.originalalamo.com. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (2001) See p.98.

Planet of the Apes (1968) *D: Franklin J. Schaffner; with Kim Hunter, Roddy McDowall, Charlton Heston. (G, 112 min.)* **Master Pancake.**

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the May 2 issue is Monday, April 21.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Guest comedian Owen Egerton rejoins John Erler and the cast to help mock the original damn-dirty-ape movie ... and Charlton Heston, too. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:45pm.

Super High Me (2008) See p.98.

SPACES

Koyaanisqatsi (1983) See p.102.

Paradise Now (2005) *D: Hany Abu-Assad; with Kais Nashef, Ali Suliman, Lubna Azabal, Amer Hlehel, Hiam Abbass, Ashraf Barhom, Mohammad Bustami. (PG-13, 90 min.)* **Community Movie and Discussion Night.** This dramatic film goes inside the mind of a Palestinian suicide bomber and is fashioned as a thriller rather than a psychological study. (*) @Wells Branch Community Library, 7pm; free.

SATURDAY ①⑨

Bratz: Girlz Really Rock (NR, 120 min.) The dolls appear in their first animated musical. The show debuts a new character, eight new songs, a TV episode, and an interview with the namesake for the Bratz character Yasmin. @Gateway, 10am.

Bratz: Girlz Really Rock @Metropolitan, 10am. (See above.)

Jalsa (2008) *D: Trivikram Srinivas; with Pawan Kalyan, Ileana, Parvati Melton, Kamalinee Mukherjee. (NR, 168 min.)* Telugu-language love story with comedy. @Tinseltown South, 3:30, 7pm.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (2001) See p.98.

Parents Afternoon Out The Village Alamo Drafthouse teams up with their shopping-center neighbors Body Business every third Saturday of the month to provide child care for kids under the age of 7, while parents catch lunch and a movie at the theatre. See www.originalalamo.com/Show.aspx?id=4890 for all the details and ticket purchas-es. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 2:30pm.

Planet of the Apes (1968) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 9:30, 11:55pm. (See Fri., 4/18.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O’Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

The Thing (1982) *D: John Carpenter; with Kurt Russell, Wilford Brimley, Richard Dysart, Richard Masur, Donald Moffat, T.K. Carter. (R, 108 min.)* **Big Screen Sci-Fi.** Carpenter helms this effects-heavy remake of the sci-fi classic about shape-shifting aliens from the Antarctic. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 4:15pm.

Offscreen

AFS: Call for Entries for 2008 Texas Filmmakers’ Production Fund The Austin Film Society is accepting applications for the 2008 Texas Filmmakers’ Production Fund. They’ll provide at least \$100,000 to emerging film and video artists in Texas, in cash grants up to \$25,000, as well as Kodak film stock and in-kind services from Seattle-based Alpha Cine Labs. (AFS will be hosting a free application workshop in Austin on April 21, to help you with the process.) Filmmakers who have resided in Texas for at least one year are eligible, and the current application is available on the AFS website. Submission deadline: *June 2. www.austinfilm.org.*

aGLIFF: My Gay Movie Challenge 2008 is now accepting submissions for this seventh annual competition. First-time and novice filmmak-ers are invited to submit a short film (no longer than 10 minutes) with a “queer sensibility” to compete for a \$500 cash prize and the chance to screen their film at aGLIFF’s 21st annual festival. Open to residents of Texas, as well as to resi-

SPACES

The Lives of Others (2006) *D: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck; with Martina Gedeck, Ulrich Mühle, Sebastian Koch, Ulrich Tukur, Thomas Thieme, Hans-Uwe Bauer, Volkmar Kleinert, Matthias Brenner, Charly Hübner. (R, 137 min.)* **German-Texan Heritage Society.** This recent Oscar winner for Best Foreign Film is the story of the small redemption of one man, who happens to be a hated East German Stasi officer. Reserve a seat by e-mailing info@germantexans.org. (*) @German Free School, 7:30pm; free.

SUNDAY ②①

Around the World in 80 Days (2004) *D: Frank Coraci; with Jackie Chan, Steve Coogan, Cécile de France, Jim Broadbent, Ewan Bremner, Karen Mok. (PG, 125 min.)* **Austin Children’s Choir.** This screening of the globe-trotting comedy remake will feature a preview performance by members of Austin Children’s Choir, in celebration of their upcoming season finale event. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, noon.

Planet of the Apes (1968) @Alamo Ritz, 4:15pm. (See Fri., 4/18.)

Super Fun Monkey Bash 6 A compilation of Japanese television weirdness. The 2008 edi-tion is a tribute to veteran TV funnyman Hitoshi Matsumoto, leading up to the imminent U.S. release of his film *Big Man Japan*. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Super High Me (2008) See p.98.

The Thing (1982) @Alamo Ritz, 1:45, 9:30pm. (See Sat., 4/19.)

SPACES

BBC Nature Films Continuous showing of nature films from the BBC. @Manchaca Library, 2:30pm.

MONDAY ②①

Box Elder (2008) *D: Todd Sklar; with Alex Rennie. (NR, 90 min.)* Shot in Columbia, Mo., on a shoe-string budget, Sklar’s debut feature is a collegiate love letter about best friends. For more on the film, see www.boxeldermovie.com. @Dobie, 7:30pm.

“Cry Freetown” and “Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” (NR, 56 min.) **Mayors Book Club.** “Cry Freetown” (D: Ron McCullough, 2000) is journalist and cameraman Sorious Samura’s horrifying report from the bowels of Sierra Leone’s grisly civil war. In “Child Soldiers of Sierra Leone,” an episode of Showtime’s *What’s Going On?* (2003) series, Michael Douglas narrates this investigation into the exploitation of children in this war-torn, diamond-rich country. Mayor Will Wynn moderates a panel afterward. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; free.

Heima (2007) *D: Dean DeBlois. (NR, 97 min.)* **Music Monday.** The film chronicles a series of free concerts Sigur Rós played in their native Iceland dur-ing the summer of 2006. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm; \$2.

dents outside the state with films set in or about Texas. See website for details. Submissions must be postmarked by *May 15. www.agliff.org.*

Austin Film Festival: Call for Entries The AFF seeks entries for the 2008 Screenplay and Teleplay competitions. Categories include Drama and Comedy, each with a cash prize of \$5,000. You may also choose to have your script considered for the Latitude and Sci-Fi Awards, each with a cash prize of \$2,500. Early deadline: *May 15*. Late deadline: *June 1*. Also: Film entries needed. There are six competitive categories: Narrative Feature, Narrative Short, Narrative Student Short, Documentary Feature, Documentary Short, and Animated Short. See website for details. Early deadline: *June 5*. Late deadline: *July 5. www.austinfilmfestival.com.*

Dobie Theatre Poster Sale They’re clear-ing out their basement of promotional goodness and offering dozens upon dozens of movie post-ers (and various bits of swag) to you, film lover, for one day only. *Sat., April 19, noon-6pm. Dobie Theatre, 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM. www.landmarktheatres.com.*

The Thing (1982) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Sat., 4/19.)

SPACES

Ferris Bueller’s Day Off (1986) *D: John Hughes; with Matthew Broderick, Alan Ruck, Mia Sara, Jeffrey Jones, Jennifer Grey, Edie McClurg, Charlie Sheen, Louis Anderson, Max Perlich, Kristy Swanson. (PG-13, 103 min.)* **Monday Movies and Margaritas.** Drink specials 5-9pm. Movie at sun-down. (*) @Belmont, 8pm; free.

TUESDAY ②②

The 11th Hour (2007) *D: Nadia Conners and Leila Conners Petersen; narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. (PG, 95 min.)* **Austin Green Art.** DiCaprio narrates this well-constructed – but oddly calm – documentary on global climate change aimed at the fence-sitters. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 6pm; \$10, \$25 VIP tickets.

The Day After Tomorrow (2004) *D: Roland Emmerich; with Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm, Emmy Rossum, Dash Mihok, Sela Ward, Tamlyn Tomita. (PG-13, 124 min.)* **Master Pancake.** Climate catastrophe gets the Earth Day treatment from the Master Pancake comedians. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Goodbye, Dragon Inn (2003) See p.100.

The Thing (1982) @Alamo Ritz, 10pm. (See Sat., 4/19.)

SPACES

Beetlejuice (1988) *D: Tim Burton; with Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder, Alec Baldwin, Geena Davis, Jeffrey Jones, Catherine O’Hara, Sylvia Sidney. (PG, 92 min.)* Free. @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

An Inconvenient Truth (2006) *D: Davis Guggenheim. (PG, 100 min.)* **Earth Day.** Al Gore sounds the alarm about global warming. (*) @Howson Library, 6:30pm; free.

Nanking (2007) See p.100.

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com. See Showtimes for dates and times.

Dolphins and Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean (2008) *D: Jean-Jacques Mantello; narrated by Daryl Hannah. (NR, 42 min.)* Presented by Jean-Michel Cousteau, this documentary goes from the coral reefs of the Bahamas to the waters off the Kingdom of Tonga to visit with the world’s dolphins, orcas, belugas, and manatees.

Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk (2008) *D: Greg MacGillivray; narrat-ed by Robert Redford. (NR, 40 min.)* The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethno-botanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta.

Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure (2007) *D: Sean MacLeod Phillips; narrated by Liev Schreiber. (NR, 40 min.)* National Geographic uses photo-realistic, computer-generated, 3-D animation to transport audiences back to the late Cretaceous period more than 65 million years ago, when a great inland sea divided North America in two. (*)

Shine a Light: The IMAX Experience (2008) *D: Martin Scorsese. (PG-13, 122 min.)* The Rolling Stones gather no moss in this Scorsese-directed concert film. In this venue you can even detect the Rolling Stones’ liver spots. Check *Chronicle* Film Listings online for review.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

Beat Films: Desolation Angels Harry Ransom Center: Beat Film Series. See p.102.

The Guy From Harlem (1977) D: Rene Martinez Jr.; with Loye Hawkins, Cathy Davis, Patricia Fulton, Wanda Starr. (R, 86 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A street-wise private investigator gets involved in trouble. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

La Dolce Vita Sweet Feast (1960) D: Federico Fellini; with Marcello Mastroianni, Anita Ekberg, Anouk Aimée. (NR, 174 min.) Fellini's classic about the decadent Roman nightlife is served with gourmet Italian food. See www.originalalamo.com for menu and tickets. @Alamo Draffthouse South, 7pm.

Michael Jackson: Thrill the World Sing-along and dance training for the 25th anniversary of *Thriller*. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

Super High Me (2008) See p.98.

SPACES

Avant Cinema: A Dazzling Trio Austin Film Society: Avant Cinema. For this second in the series, Scott Stark presents three Austin notables – PJ Raval, Rick Reed, and Samantha Krukowski – who will each present selections from their body of work. Each artist will conduct a Q&A after screening his/her selections. @Austin Studios Screening Room, 7pm; \$6, \$4 AFS members/students.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) D: Steven Spielberg; with Harrison Ford, Karen Allen, Denholm Elliott, Wolf Kahler, Paul Freeman. (PG, 115 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

THURSDAY 24

Alien Blood: Director's Cut (1999) D: Jon Sorensen; with Rob Campbell, Penelope Dudley, Tony Hunt, Francesca Manning. (NR, 80 min.) **Tromatic Thursday.** An extraterrestrial on Earth is forced to defend her offspring. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

Big Man Japan (2007) D: Hitoshi Matsumoto; with Matsumoto, Riki Takeuchi. (NR, 113 min.) Straight from its U.S. premiere at Fantastic Fest comes this comic Japanese super-hero movie. @Alamo Draffthouse South, 11:50pm.

DCI: The Countdown (2008) (NR, 120 min.) Drum Corps International presents this compilation of six full-length performances selected from the 2005, 2006, and 2007 DCI World Championship finalists, as chosen by fans. @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 7:30pm.



“Mexiphobia,” one of the films at Cine las Americas

Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:15pm. (See Thu., 4/17.)

Lost TV @ the Alamo. Free, but advance reservations suggested. @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm; @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 9pm;

One Dark Night (1983) D: Tom McLoughlin; with Meg Tilly, Melissa Newman, Robin Evans, Leslie Speights. **Terror Thursday.** Telekinesis and girl-gang initiation rites: Sounds like a great combo. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story (2008) D: Rick Greenwald; narrated by David Duchovny. (NR, 85 min.) The documentary chronicles the final week of the 2006 Caltech basketball season. The team was in the midst of a 21-year losing streak but had more valedictorians than players with high school ball experience. Director Greenwald will introduce the film and be on hand for a Q&A afterward. See the Score sports blog, austinchronicle.com/sports, for more on the film. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$8.25.

Super High Me (2008) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Fri., 4/18.)

Two Days in April (2007) D: Don Argot. (NR, 90 min.) **Austin Film Festival.** Four college football players are followed in a training facility in Florida where they mentally and physically prepare for the NFL draft. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.

SPACES

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (2007) D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman, Timothy Spall, Sacha Baron Cohen, Jamie Campbell Bower, Laura Michelle Kelly, Jayne Wisener. (R, 117 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Festivals

Cine las Americas International Film Festival The festival screens the best in new film from the Americas; this year's program offers a panorama of narrative and documentary films from countries throughout North, Central, and South America and Spain. The festival also hosts a retrospective of eight films by the Brazilian master Nelson Pereira dos Santos. See “The Audacity of Promoting Necessary Cinema,” April 11, for film reviews and other coverage. For complete descriptions of the films and events, see www.cinelasamericas.org. Thu. (4/17)-Thu. (4/24) @ Mexican American Cultural Center, Metropolitan, Paramount, 501 Studios Theater, Alamo Draffthouse South

Newsweek

“EXHILARATING... ‘YOUNG@HEART’ SENDS YOU OUT OF THE THEATER TRANSFORMED.”

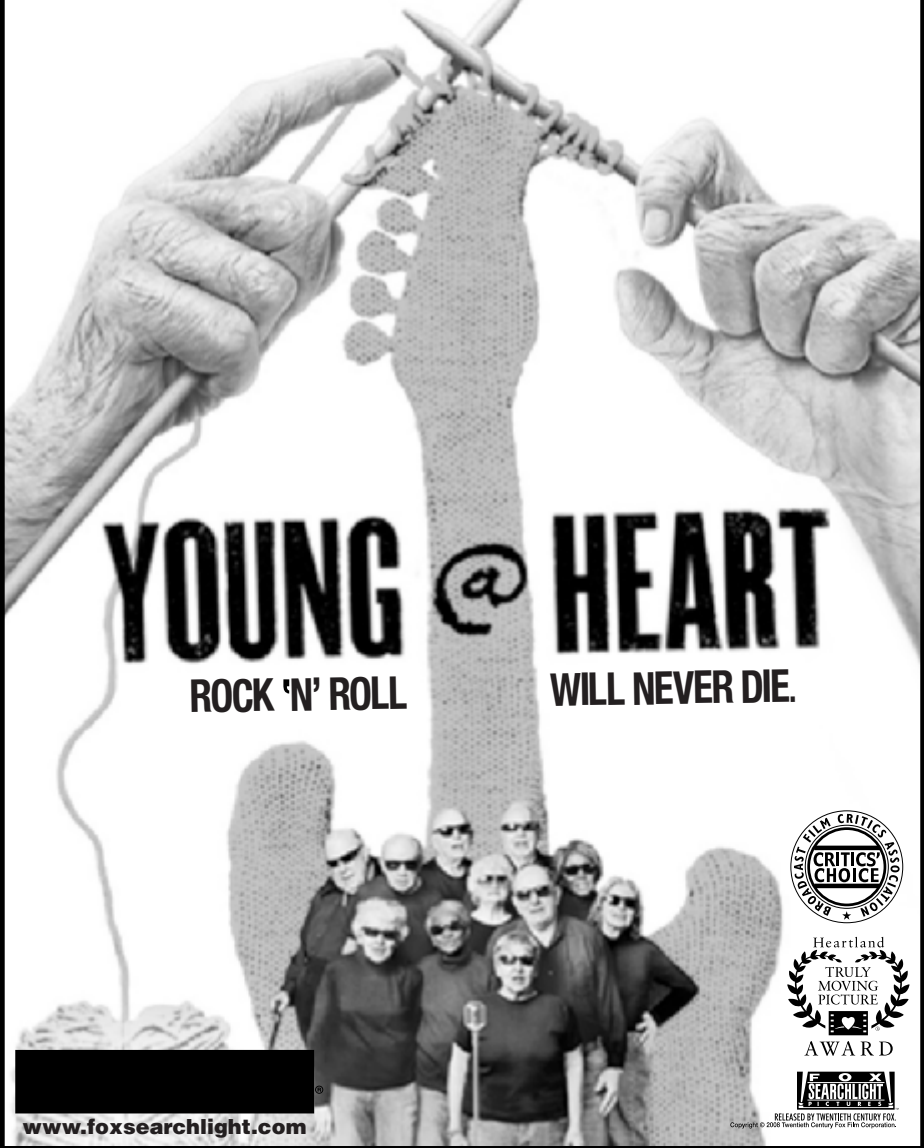
David Ansen

“‘YOUNG@HEART’ IS A HEARTENING AND POIGNANT AFFIRMATION OF THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF MUSIC.”

Claudia Puig, USA TODAY

“A CROWD-AND-CRITIC-PLEASING sleeper that is joyous, wrenching, intimate and HILARIOUS.”

Karen Durbin, ELLE



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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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From the producer of "Sideways"

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 Jambo • Q Brothers • Buck Howdy with BB • Uncle Rock • Big Don • mr. RAY • The Jimmies

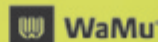


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Rush's
Geddy Lee

PHOTOS BY GARY MILLER



Dimmu
Borgir

Metallurgy

MONDAY 21-
WEDNESDAY 23

Nick Lowe ANTONE'S, FRIDAY 18



Two versions of Nick Lowe have been on display lately. 2007's achingly pensive *At My Age* continued his turn toward soulful crooner, while this year's spectacular reissue of his 1978 debut, *Jesus of Cool* (Yep Roc), reminds us of his days as a power-pop genius. The former is where he's at in concert, so expect a low-key but no less riveting performance. Canadian folkie Ron Sexsmith opens.

— Jim Caligiuri

Throw Me the Statue, the Ruby Suns

MOHAWK, FRIDAY 18

Scott Reitherman might hear voices, but the man behind Seattle's Throw Me the Statue isn't always guided by them. With a quirky pop melody and an echo that drives the future home, his debut, *Moonbeams* (Secretly Canadian), delicately balances truth with fantasy. That's where Auckland's Ruby Suns come in, painting the globe from island sing-alongs to 1960s pop on sophomore LP *Sea Lion* (Sub Pop). Local do-gooders Golden Bear open.

— Darcie Stevens

Negativland ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ, FRIDAY 18 & SATURDAY 19

One man's merry prankster is another's sonic terrorist — just ask San Franciscan audio collage sound-bombers Negativland. Combining found audio (Casey Kasem's epithet-strewn ranting on the band's 1991 "U2" single netted a lawsuit courtesy of Island Records) with subversive samples, loopy musical cues, and all manner of media manipulation, Negativland remains culture jammers *par excellence* nearly 30 years on. Both shows 9:30pm.

— Marc Savlov

Indian Jewelry EMO'S LOUNGE, SATURDAY 19



Growing from a trio to a quintet yields new damage on Indian Jewelry's upcoming LP, *Free Gold* (We Are Free). On 2006's *Invasive Exotics*, the H-Towners packed screwed beats and chopped reverb, but *Free Gold* expands sonically (gauzy psych opener "Swans," wired whirl

"Temporary Famine Ship") as well as culturally, all while leaving their cult vibe intact. Local psych wards ST 37 and barkers the Carnys open.

— Audra Schroeder

In-Stores



Saturday: **Record Store Day**: The **Shackeltons** (2pm), **Nic Armstrong** (6pm), End of an Ear; the **Drunks**, the **Gospel Truth**, Trailer Space, 4pm; **DJ Loraine**, **Karea**, **K.J. Hines**, **Dollaz-N-Since**, **Lil A**, **Hood Soul**, **DJ Jahn**, Music Mania, 11am; **Sqratch Karnival**, Backspin Records, 5pm

Tuesday: **Nelo**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

Metal Monday sacrifices Stubb's as the Norwegian black metal of both **Dimmu Borgir** (Dim-moo Bor-gear) and **Keep of Kalessin** sandwiches the Polish Apostasy of **Behemoth**. The weak dollar unleashes an unholy trinity. Tuesday at Red 7, a South by Southwest 08 Relapse Records twofor contrasts trios, Philly's **Genghis Tron** and Kentucky's **Coliseum**. The former's epic Emerson, Lake & Palmer synthesizes

guttural prog, while the latter's hardcore grinds. Recent sophomore provocations from each — Tron's *Board Up the House* and Coliseum's *No Salvation* — tag-team two of the year's early ear-benders. Headlining Boston/Brooklyn quartet **Converge** corodes fast, heavy. Chicago instrumentalists **Pelican** lock down Wednesday at Stubb's before **Circa Survive** and ever emo-tal headliners **Thrice**, and just up Red River,

Rush thunders through the Frank Erwin Center. The Progressive Party's Canadian kings grace Austin for the first time since 1993's *Counterparts* trek, the first leg of last summer's *Snakes & Arrows* jag mining deep backlog ("Circumstances") and new LP ("The Main Monkey Business") over two sets. Given the raw instro-boil of "Monkey Business," Syrnix's Three Lords still wield Herculean metallurgy.

— Raoul Hernandez

Benevento-Russo Duo PARISH, SATURDAY 19

Marco Benevento calls up melodies from his keyboards in tribal waves of haunt. Recent Hyena solo debut *Invisible Baby* standardizes "Record Book" from last year's *Live at Tonic* — three discs erupting Pompeii — while a pair of Ropeadope studio scorchers with partner in bash Joe Russo harnesses

sunspots. Upstairs at the Parish, their Austin City Limits opus of two years ago (and downstairs Stubb's debut) rockets the back draft out the venue's second-story windows.

— Raoul Hernandez

Austin Reggae Festival

AUDITORIUM SHORES, SATURDAY 19 & SUNDAY 20

It's reggae season in Austin, and this year's lineup may be the strongest yet. Saturday headliner Luciano, whose unremittingly positive message and deep roots sensibilities are sure to provide the requisite good vibes, is joined by veteran Mikey General. The legendary Culture headlines Sunday, now led by Kenyatta Hill, son of the late Joseph Hill. Flamingo Cantina hosts the late-night lineups: Luciano on Friday and Culture on Saturday. www.austinreggaefest.com.

— Jay Trachtenberg

Cat Power/Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks

STUBB'S/LA ZONA ROSA, SUNDAY 20

This Sunday night showdown presents two of Matador Records' elite: chanteuse Cat Power pitted against former Pavement icon Stephen Malkmus. In one corner, still performatively neurotic, Chan Marshall eviscerates with the smoky power found in her continued mining of Memphis soul for this year's second covers offering, *Jukebox*. In the other, Malkmus unloads his own *Real Emotional Trash*, the latest album erupting guitar euphoria in absurdist visions. Keep it clean.

— Doug Freeman



John Lennon Hoot Rock 'n' Roll Revival

RUTA MAYA, SUNDAY 20

Full-moon fever arrives with a massive eight-hour celebration of all things John Lennon. A jam-packed bill of 18 mostly local acts — including the Viet Minh, Nic Armstrong, Shapes Have Fangs, 3 Balls of Fire, and the Bellfuries — lays out everything from "A Hard Day's Night" to "Whatever Gets You Thru the Night," while related video footage screens between sets. Seattle's Psychotropic DJs start the show at 6pm.

— Greg Beets

Tift Merritt PARISH, MONDAY 21

Tift Merritt returns to give us a taste of tunes from her clear-eyed and confident third effort, *Another Country* (Fantasy). Always more introspective on disc than in person, the North Carolinian knows how to rouse a crowd with a blend of country-tinged folk and blues-infused rockers. Occasional Calexico compatriot Naim Amor opens.

— Jim Caligiuri

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

BUDDY GUY W/ DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND
Stubb's, Friday 18

The blues legend polishes the Big Easy's top brass.

MURDER BALLADS NIGHT
Scoot Inn, Friday 18

Jesse Sublett, Jon Dee Graham, and more paint the town red.

PRINCE PAUL
Mohawk, Saturday 19

The hip-hop producer rolls solo. Crew54 opens.

JFA

Red 7, Saturday 19
SoCal skate punks all grown up.

WILLIE "BIG EYES" SMITH
Antone's, Tuesday 22
Muddy Waters' former skinsman chops with Pinetop.

▶ live music VENUES p.110

▶ CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows p.112

MIKE DOUGHTY
Antone's, Sunday 20

From Soul Coughing to *Golden Delicious*.

DARK INSIDE THE SUN
Opera House, Wednesday 23

One-man breakdown. Daniel Francis Doyle, Low Red Center, and more offer support.

KEEP AUSTIN PAGAN
Ruta Maya, Thursday 24

Local oddities That Damned Band host Australia's Spiral Dance for some advanced magick.



DownStairs

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 plus: BRONZE AGE

FRI 18 APR **THROW ME A STATUE**
 plus: THE RUBY SUNS
 GOLDEN BEAR

SAT 19 APR **PRINCE PAUL**
 with: CREW 54, PNYCE
 (DRUM BUMS/T.P.C.)

SUN 20 APR **COLLIE BUDDZ**
 with: ZEALE 32
 GRIMY STYLES

MON 21 APR **MUCHOS BACKFLIPS**
 plus: BAD DUDES
 early: METAL MONDAYS HAPPY HOUR

TUE 22 APR **KINCH**
 AND GUESTS

WED 23 APR **BITCH AND THE EXCITING CONCLUSION**
 plus: FOLLOW THAT BIRD!

THUR 24 APR **MR. LEWIS AND THE FUNERAL FIVE**
 FRIENDS OF DEAN MARTINEZ
 INSECT FABLE

FRI 25 APR **ELF POWER BELAIRE**
 BLACK AND WHITE YEARS
 YELLOW FEVER & TJ

SAT 26 APR **ROSA'S BDAY**
 TILL WE'RE BLUE, FRANK SMITH
 GOLDEN BEAR, BRONZE AGE

SUN 27 APR **THE HARLEQUINS**
 COLOUR WHEEL,
 BROTHERS O'HAIR

MON 28 APR **METAL.**
 AND MORE METAL.
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WED 30 APR **KID KOALA**
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INSIDE: **SCOUT NIBLETT • ABBY BIRDS**
NIC ARMSTRONG • PUFF PUFF AND THE RECEIVERS
LOUNGE: **FLAMING LIPS HOOT NIGHT**

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

INSIDE: **KRUM BUMS**
VAN BUREN BOYS • SOBER DAZE • 13TH VICTIM
LOUNGE: **YOUNGMOND GRAND**
WAILING WALLS (CD RELEASE) • MANDIBLE

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

OUTSIDE: 101X NO CONTROL PRESENTS
DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN
THE BLEED • THE HIGH COST OF LIVING
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

LOUNGE: **INDIAN JEWELRY**
THE CARNYS • ST 37

INSIDE: **ZEROBOYS**
THE WAX MUSEUMS • THE HEX DISPENSERS • DESKONOCIDOS

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

INSIDE: **QUIET COMPANY • ETHAN DURELLE**
(ESOTYPE RECORDS)
THE NEW FRONTIERS (MILITIA GROUP RECORDS)
ALIVE IN WILD PAINT • TUESDAY'S DEBUT

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

INSIDE: **MONUMENTS • EXETER • MONUMENT TO NO ONE**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

INSIDE: **NATHAN SINGLETON**
& HIS SIDESHOW TRAGEDY
LOUNGE: **HI-WATT CRUCIFIXERS**
FRESH MILLIONS • SLOW TRAIN • TBA

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

INSIDE: **PROM NITE • CAMP X-RAY**
PRAYER FOR ANIMALS • WATCHING THE MOON
LOUNGE: **THE TINY TIN HEARTS**
DAVE WIRTH • PAUL BANKS

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

INSIDE: **ATTACK FORMATION**
THE DIAGONALS • BLACK EARTH
LOUNGE: **CRASH GALLERY • TAUNTO**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

OUTSIDE: **DYNAMITE BOY REUNION**
CRUISERWEIGHT • BORN TO LOSE
SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS
THE ARMOUR (FEATURING MEMBERS OF
DYNAMITE BOY AND NEAR MISS)
TICKETS ON SALE NOW
LOUNGE: **KISSINGER • THE ALICE ROSE**
HELLO LOVER • DJ HIP WILLIAMS

COMING SOON: •5/8 TORCHE, STINKING LIZAVETA, CANYON OF THE SKULL (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW)

•5/11 CARNEY AND THE BRAKES (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) / PENNYWISE, STRUNG OUT, AUTHORITY ZERO (OUTSIDE, TICKETS ON SALE NOW)
•5/15 ROKY ERICKSON AND THE EXPLOSIVES •5/15-5/17 CHAOS IN TEXAS (CHECK OUT EMOSAUSTIN.COM FOR FULL LINE UP)
•5/20 FOREVER THE SICKEST KIDS AND METRO STATION, THE MAINE, DANGER RADIO, THE CAB (INSIDE ON SALE NOW)
•5/23 CLINIC, BBQ (OUTSIDE) / NEVA DINOVA, LADYHAWK (INSIDE) •5/24 MURDER BY DEATH, DIOS, GASOLINE HEART (INSIDE)
•5/30 THE BLACK ANGELS (OUTSIDE) / MARGOT & THE NUCLEAR SO & SO'S (INSIDE) •6/1 LOCAL H, HE IS LEGEND (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW)
•6/3 SWERVEDRIVER •6/10 BELAIRE, THE CARROTS (INSIDE) •6/8 65DAYSOFTSTATIC, CRY BLOOD APACHE (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) •6/7 SINGER
(INSIDE, ON SALE SAT. 4/19) •6/10 MARIA TAYLOR (OF AZURE RAY) / JONATHAN RICE, NIK FREITAS (TEAM LOVE) (LOUNGE) •6/11 RZA / STONE
MECCA (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) •6/12 FIREWATER (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) •6/19 DOSH, ANATHALLO (LOUNGE, ON SALE NOW) •6/23 ISLANDS /
CRAYONSMITH (OUTSIDE, ON SALE FRIDAY 4/11) •7/1 NO AGE •7/3 THE BRONX •7/11 PETER MURPHY (OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW)

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SUNDAY, APRIL 27

INSIDE: **AIRBOURNE • SCORPION CHILD**
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

OUTSIDE: **CARIBOU • FUCK BUTTONS**

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

INSIDE: **YEA BIG • KID STATIC**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

OUTSIDE:



MAN MAN
YEASAYER TICKETS ON SALE NOW

INSIDE: **BONDE DO ROLE • THE DEATH SET**



THURSDAY, MAY 1

INSIDE: **THE BLACK • THE LONELY H (WA)**
LOMITA • LEATHERBAG

LOUNGE: **KITTY KITTY BANG BANG BURLESQUE SHOW**

FRIDAY, MAY 2

OUTSIDE:



ATMOSPHERE
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LOUNGE
7-9PM: **PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK**

LATER, IN THE LOUNGE:
GHOST OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE
(CD RELEASE) SHE, SIR

INSIDE: **HELLO LOVERS** (RECORD RELEASE)

SATURDAY, MAY 3

LOUNGE
7-9PM: **PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK**

LATER IN THE LOUNGE:
MIDGETMEN CD RELEASE
PEEL • THE GEORGIAN • COMPANY • CALM BLUE SEA

INSIDE: **THE BLUE FOUR**
(FEATURING SOUND TEAM'S MATT OLIVER AND JORDAN JOHNS)

MONDAY, MAY 5

OUTSIDE: **101X** PRESENTS
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MONDAY, JUNE 9

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JOEL GUZMAN
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JUG BAND
Strange Invitation
- 5) THE SWORD
Gods of the Earth
- 6) BOB SCHNEIDER
When the Sun Breaks
Down on the Moon
- 7) GHOSTLAND
OBSERVATORY
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Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga
- 9) CAROLYN
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MON • APR 21 & 28 • 7PM SIGN-UP
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TUE • APR 22 • 8:30PM
THE RETURN OF
THE TEA MERCHANTS
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WED • APR 23 • 8PM
SHAKE RUSSELL
BILL HEARNE TRIO
MIKE HEARNE

THUR • APR 24 • 8PM • TWIN BILL
Too MUCH DESIRE • CD RELEASE
ROBYN LUDWICK
PRE CD RELEASE
SUSAN GIBSON

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& FRIENDS

TUE • APR 29
CHRIS BRECHT

WED APR 30
MAX STALLING

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SLIDE-O-RAMA
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WITH GUEST STARS GALORE

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11:15PM
CATFISH HUNTERS
10PM
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FRIDAY APRIL 18
HAPPY HOUR THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM
JAMES HAND
10PM
NIC ARMSTRONG
SATURDAY APRIL 19
MATINEE 3-7PM
DAVE INSLEY
12AM
BIG SAM'S FUNKY NATION
10PM
DEE GRAHAM
THURSDAY APRIL 24
H. H. JILL HENNESSY
12AM
CHILI COLD BLOOD
11:15PM
DEKE DICKERSON AND THE ECCOFONICS
FRIDAY APRIL 25
H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM
THE HORSES
10PM
LZ Love
SUNDAY APRIL 20
MATINEE 3-7PM
BO PORTER
10PM
THE DERAILERS
12AM
CORNELL HURD BAND
9PM
JILL HENNESSY
MONDAY APRIL 21
HAPPY HOUR 10PM
JAMES INTVELD
TUESDAY APRIL 22
HAPPY HOUR 6:30
Toni Price
AND RICH BROTHERTON
12AM
Frogleg
WITH GARY CLARK, JR AND ANTHONY FARRELL
ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
WEDNESDAY APRIL 23
10PM
H. H. THE GREYHOUNDS
JAMES McMURTRY
10:30PM
JON GRAHAM
SIS DEVILLE
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
FLORAMAY HOLLIDAY, LISA PANKRATZ
ANN MARIE HARROP & SHELLEY KING
LA TAMPIQUENA
LOWELL GREENE
NO COVER HAPPY HR. RANDY WEEKS 6-6:45
WEDNESDAY APRIL 23
9:30
DAN DYER
CARTER BECKWORTH 11
AUSTIN COLLINS 8
DYLAN SNEED 12:30
NO COVER HAPPY HR. CLAY JEFFREY 6:30
UPCOMING SHOWS
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MARK UTTER & THE BLACKLAND 10:30
SUN MACHINE 9:15
CHELLE MURRAY 8
NATHAN HUBBLE 6:30
FRIDAY APRIL 18
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SATURDAY APRIL 19
PATRICE PIKE 11:30
TED HADJI 9:30
SOMETHING QUIET 8
SUNDAY APRIL 20 / \$5
BELLEVILLE OUTFIT 9:30-12
DENNIS LUDIKER & NOAH JEFFRIES 12:15
MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND 8
JENNY REYNOLDS 7
MONDAY APRIL 21 / \$5
DUSTIN WELCH
& THE HOUSE BAND 10:45
JEREMY NAIL & THE INCIDENTS 9:30
NATHAN SINGLETON
& HIS SIDESHOW TRAGEDY 12:15
CANDILAND 8
COURTNEY PATTON 7
TUESDAY APRIL 22 / \$10
SIS DEVILLE
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
FLORAMAY HOLLIDAY, LISA PANKRATZ
ANN MARIE HARROP & SHELLEY KING 8
LA TAMPIQUENA 10:30
LOWELL GREENE 12
NO COVER HAPPY HR. RANDY WEEKS 6-6:45
WEDNESDAY APRIL 23
9:30
DAN DYER
CARTER BECKWORTH 11
AUSTIN COLLINS 8
DYLAN SNEED 12:30
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MONDAY 4/21
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roadshows

APRIL

THU 17

Son Volt, Bobby Bare Jr., Antone's
Brave Combo, Cadillac Sky, Camp Ben McCulloch
Bombardment by Aeroplane, Carousel Lounge
Possessed by Paul James, Continental Club
Scout Niblett, Underwood, Fearless Freaks, Emo's
The Harlequins, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Bob Cheevers, Java Lounge at Austin Java
The Wallers, La Zona Rosa
Dr. Zoom, Focus Group, Lamberts
Siberian, Mohawk
Donnie Green, the Oaks
Soundpool, the Parish
El Paso Heist, the Parlor
Wax Museums, Quack's Maplewood Bakery
Gary Hoey, Rock City Icehouse
Dimitri's Ascent, Ruta Maya
Jeff Strahan, Saxon Pub
Adam Freeland, Sky Lounge
Pepper, Redeye Empire, Iration, Stubb's Bar-B-Que

FRI 18

Negativland, Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz
Nick Lowe, Ron Sexsmith, Antone's
Astronautilus, Beauty Bar
Bettye LaVette, Delbert McClinton, Martin Sexton, Camp Ben McCulloch
Luciano, Flamingo Cantina
Relentless Jones, Hanover's
The Handsomes, Lucky Lounge
Throw Me the Statue, the Ruby Suns, Mohawk
Acoustic Alchemy, One World Theatre
Soundpool, the Parish
Dimitri's Ascent, Ghosthustler, Rhizome Collective
Rebirth Brass Band, Ruta Maya
Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights, Buddy Guy, Dirty Dozen Brass

Band, Stubb's Bar-B-Que Exeter, Guns of Detroit, Trophy's

SAT 19

Negativland, Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz
Blind Melon, Antone's
Luciano, Higher Heights, Auditorium Shores
Big Sam's Funky Nation, Continental Club
Dillinger Escape Plan, Zero Boys, Wax Museums, Emo's
The Shackeltons, End of an Ear
Culture, Flamingo Cantina
Hit & Run, Headhunters
Sun Salutations, Hi-Lo
Bret Gand Is Dead, Lamberts
Prince Paul, Richard Henry, Mohawk
Benevento-Russo Duo, the Parish
JFA, Human Struggle, Bark Hard, ANS, Red 7
Todd Snider, New Monsoon, Marty Stuart, Charlie Musselwhite, Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Pieta Brown, Infamous Stringdusters, Jones Family Singers, Beatlegas, Emily Elbert, J.D. Crowe & the New South, Bearfoot, Camp Ben McCulloch
Fondue Monks, Speakeasy Panic at the Disco, Motion City Soundtrack, the Hush Sound, Phantom Planet, Stubb's Bar-B-Que
Panic at the Disco, Waterloo Records
SUN 20
Mike Doughty, Antone's
Culture, Jah Roots, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, Qwiksand, Auditorium Shores
Infamous Stringdusters, Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, Bearfoot, Camp Ben McCulloch
Blue Light Special, Güero's
Taco Bar
Stephen Malkmus & the

Jicks, the Joggers, La Zona Rosa

Collie Buddz, Mohawk
Leon Russell, One World Theatre

Beautiful Mistake, Roadhouse Rags
Augustine, Hacienda, Ruta Maya
Cat Power, Appaloosa, Stubb's Bar-B-Que

MON 21

The Shackeltons, Beauty Bar
James Intveld, Continental Club
Tift Merritt, Naim, the Parish
Javier Cruz, the Parlor
Dimmu Borgir, Keep of Kalessin, Behemoth, Stubb's Bar-B-Que

TUE 22

Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, Antone's
Toni Price, Continental Club
Slumlord, Headhunters
Bombardment by Aeroplane, Lucy's on the Square
Devon Williams, Mohawk
VHS or Beta, Tiger City, the Parish
Converge, Coliseum, Genghis Tron, the Red Chord, Red 7

WED 23

Shake Russell, Cactus Cafe
Alyssa Falk, Elephant Room
Rush, Frank Erwin Center Smokin' Toads, Headhunters
Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion, Mohawk
Fight Pretty, I Am Wolf, the Parlor
Thrice, Circa Survive, Pelican, Stubb's Bar-B-Que
White Knuckle Drivers, Trophy's

THU 24

Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Antone's
Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, Continental Club
Sputnik Monroe, Lucy's on the Square
Filter, Stubb's Bar-B-Que
Nanosmash, Trophy's

for your benefit

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

THU 17

Old Settler's Music Festival, HAAM Fundraiser w/ Cadillac Sky, Green Mountain Grass, Slim Richey, the Waybacks, Brave Combo, Camp Ben McCulloch

Casa Marianella/Posada Esperanza Benefit w/ Buscando el Monte, Lannaya, Ritmo 3, Grupo Fantasma, Atash, **Monarch Event Center**

FRI 18

Save Edie! Benefit w/ Canopy, Jason & Cari, the Early Tapes, Martin Crane, **Club de Ville**

Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ the Rebirth Brass Band, Ruta Maya

KVRX Benefit w/ Fizzy Dino Pop, Ghosthustler, Dimitri's Ascent, Maneja Beto, Silent Land Time Machine, Matt Dayton, Mermaid Blonde, I Kill Cars, Troublesome Trio, **Rhizome Collective**

Old Settler's Music Festival, HAAM Fundraiser w/ Flyin' \$ Bunkhouse Band, the Belleville Outfit, Slim Richey, Jitterbug Vipers, Green Mountain Grass, Eliza Gilkyson, Cadillac Sky, the Waybacks, David Grisman, Bettye LaVette, Martin Sexton, Flounders Without Eyes, Delbert McClinton, **the Salt Lick**

SAT 19

Reggae Fest, Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Full Service, Tribal Nation, Grimy Styles, Higher Heights, Don Chani, Luciano, **Auditorium Shores**

Texas Music Project Benefit w/ Chris Parker, Will Dunlap, the Banters, Scott Henning, **Changos (South Lamar)**

Kim Clifton Benefit w/ Melissa Sellers, **Moonriver Bar & Grill**

Austin Green Art Earth Day Festival w/ March Fourth, Mundi, Belaharr, Solar Jam, **Republic Square Park**

World Beats Refugee Services of Texas Benefit w/ Salero, 1001 Nights Orchestra, Atash, Tribal Nation, **Ruta Maya**

Old Settler's Music Festival Fundraiser w/ Bearfoot, J.D. Crowe & the New South, Emily Elbert, Beatlegas, Jones Family Singers, Sarah Jarosz, Infamous Strings Dusters, Peter Rowan, Pieta Brown, Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, Charlie Musselwhite, Terri Hendrix, Marty Stuart, New Monsoon, Todd Snider, **the Salt Lick**

SUN 20

Reggae Fest Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ Qwiksand, Lionhead, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, Jah Roots, Mr. Brown, Mau Mau Chaplains, Cultur, **Auditorium Shores**

Old Settler's Music Festival, HAAM Fundraiser w/ Rockin' Gospel Project, Bearfoot, Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, Infamous Stringdusters, **Camp Ben McCulloch**

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- Fr 18 Highly Likely 6pm
The Belgraves, Johnny Gobbs, A Corpse Vanishes 9pm
- Sa 19 Three Leaf, The Egress, Minds to Chew 10pm
- Su 20 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm
- Mo 21 Ray Cashman 6pm Triple Tronica 10pm
- Tu 22 RG Stark 6pm
Electric Courage Machine, Colour Wheel, Mira Loma 9pm
- We 23 Bob King 6pm
Blackholius, Invincible Czars, The Carnys 9pm
- Th 24 Bruce Curtis Band 6pm
Elephant Nightmare, The Couch 10pm
- Fr 25 The Skeletons, Crystal Creek Boys 10pm
- Sa 26 Spank - Live Video Shoot! 10pm

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TODD SNIDER - BETTYE LAVETTE - NEW MONSOON
CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE - JD CROWE & THE NEW SOUTH
PETER ROWAN & FRIENDS - THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS
BRAVE COMBO - TERRI HENDRIX - THE WAYBACKS - SARAH JAROSZ
CADILLAC SKY - THE JONES FAMILY SINGERS
BLACKIE & THE RODEO KINGS - GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS
BEATLEGRAS - FLOUNDERS WITHOUT EYES - PIETA BROWN
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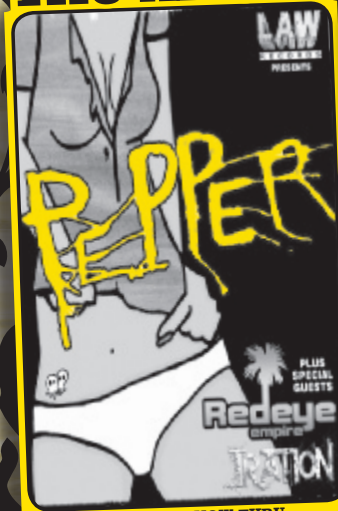
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THU/ APR 17



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FRI/ APR 18



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SUN/ APR 20



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MON/ APR 21



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WED/ APR 23



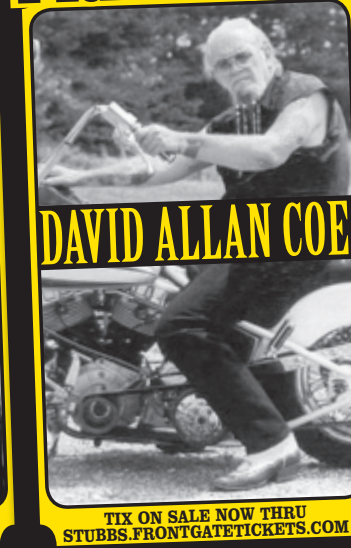
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THU/ APR 24



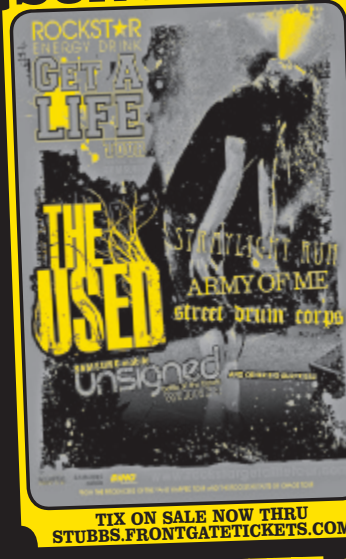
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FRI/ APR 25



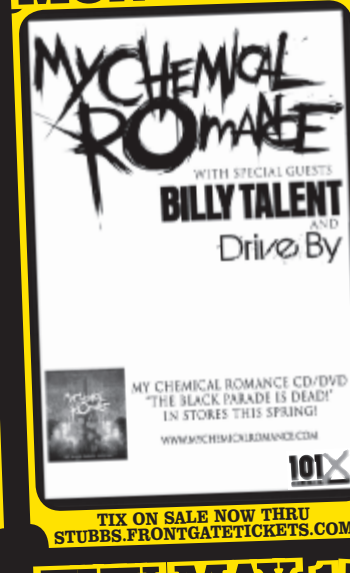
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SUN/ APR 27



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MON/ APR 28



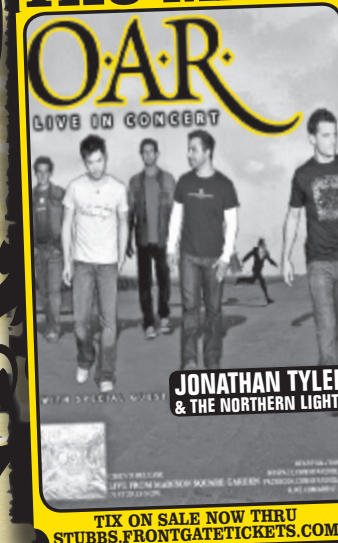
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WED/ APR 30



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THU/ MAY 1



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FRI MAY 2 & SAT MAY 3



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TUE MAY 6



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THU MAY 15



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FRI MAY 16 & SAT MAY 17



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AND THE MONSTERS

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SUN JUN 1

THE DRESDEN DOLLS



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IN THE CLUB

THU APR 17 — DOORS 10:30PM

MURDER, MY SWEET

INDOORS AFTER PEPPER

FRI APR 18 — DOORS 11PM

JONATHAN TYLER

AND **THE NORTHERN LIGHTS**
FREE WITH BUDDY GUY TIX

SUN APR 20

GOSPEL BRUNCH WITH
THE GOSPEL SILVERTONES

SAT APR 26

TRISTAN PRETTYMAN

WITH **WHITLEY**

SUN APR 27

THE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS
WITH **VIRGINIA COALITION**

TUE APR 29

LANDON PIGG

WED APR 30 — DOORS 10PM

TOUBAB KREWE

\$5 WITH JOHN BUTLER TRIO TIX

THU MAY 1 — DOORS 11PM

ELEVEN FINGERED CHARLIE
O.A.R. AFTERSHOW FREE WITH O.A.R. TIX

WED MAY 14

NORTHERN STATE
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
AMERICAN PRINCES

FRI JUN 6

Lezyron
DATAROCK



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WED JUN 11

INDIGO GIRLS




ACQUSTIC DUO
IN CONCERT
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
brandi carlie

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MON JUN 16

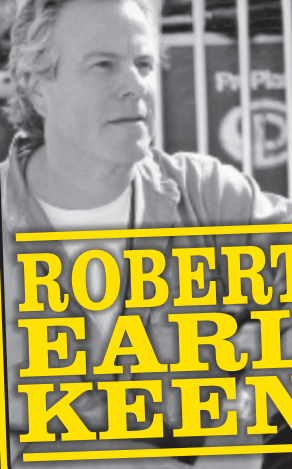
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SPRING TOUR 2008
PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS
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AND **BENJI HUGHES**



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FRI JUN 20

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THU, APR 17, 10PM

JJ USHER



FRI, APR 18, 9PM

THE HANDSOMES



SAT, APR 19, 9PM

PRIMM



SUN, APR 20, 10PM

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TUE, APR 22, 10PM

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WED, APR 23, 10PM

ALPHA REV



THU, APR 24, 6PM

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10PM

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FRIDAY APRIL 18



NICK LOWE
with
RON SEXSMITH

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THIS SATURDAY APRIL 19



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THIS SUNDAY APRIL 20



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WITH THE PANDERERS

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MONDAY APRIL 21

SUPER SOUL MONDAYS

F.L.Y. JACK
DIZZY GILLESPIE AND THE BROKEN SOULS
UNCLE BRUNO

DOORS @ 6 | SHOW @ 7

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23



Eric Tessmer
WITH ERIN JAIMES

TUESDAY APRIL 22

a very special **BLUE TUESDAY** with
BLUES LEGENDS



PINETOP PERKINS
AND FROM CHICAGO
WILLIE "BIG EYES" SMITH

ALSO FEATURING
CHRIS LAYTON
DEREK O'BRIEN
GARY CLARK JR
SCOTT NELSON

EARLY SHOW • DOORS 7 • SHOW 8
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THURSDAY APRIL 24



KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD

DOORS 8 • SHOW 9 • ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM


FRIDAY APRIL 25



MARC BROUSSARD
WITH K.S. RHODS

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SATURDAY APRIL 26



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TUESDAY APRIL 29

SCOTTIE MILLER
WITH RAY PRIMM | DOORS 7 | SHOW 7:30
LATER: **BLUE TUESDAY** WITH
DEREK & MALFORD

THURSDAY MAY 1



IAN MOORE
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FRIDAY MAY 2



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SATURDAY MAY 3

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION!

DEL CASTILLO
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FRIDAY MAY 9



PATRICE PIKE & CAROLYN WONDERLAND

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FRIDAY MAY 16



GUY FORSYTH
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SATURDAY MAY 10



What Made Milwaukee Famous
with The Whigs
The Dead Trees • Dead Black Hearts

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FRIDAY MAY 2



THE SUBDUES

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STEPHEN IS ONE IN A MILLION

MONDAY MAY 19

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THURSDAY MAY 22

REMEMBERING

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FRIDAY MAY 23

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THU 17	KENT MAYHEW	LC ROCKS
FRI 18	CANDILAND	I NEED MORE COWBELL
SAT 19		RADIOSTAR
SUN 20		suede
MON 21	HIGHLY LIKELY	JUKEBOX HEROES feat. robert wagner
TUE 22	CANDILAND	11-FINGERED CHARLIE
WED 23	TRENT & DAVE	SPAZMATICS



208 W.4th St. Warehouse District 512.495.9669

club listings

Thu 17

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Michael O'Connor (3:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Brad Evilsizer (3:30)

ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Circle in a Square (3:30)

ANTONE'S Bobby Bare Jr., Son Volt (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Danny Santos
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 3 Balls of Fire (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Tumbleweed Racer

THE BELMONT Bruce James Soultet (8:00)

BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Sarah Hughes

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau

CACTUS CAFE Leatherbag CD Release (8:30)

CAFE MUNDI Giant Three (6:00)

CAMP BEN MCCULLOCH Old Settler's Music Festival, HAAM Fundraiser w/ Cadillac Sky, Green Mountain Grass, Slim Richey, the Waybacks, Brave Combo (4:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Tonewheel Collective, Bombardment by Aeroplane, the Couch

CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC Rocks (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Paul Eason

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Mother Truckers (6:30), Jerm Pollet, Possessed by Paul James, Mario Matteoli (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE The Sophisticates

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Dave Biller, Chris Maresh (9:30)

EMO'S Lounge: Flaming Lips Hoot w/ Fearless Freaks, the Action Is, Underwood, Bryce Clifford, Honor Farm, Masonic; Inside: Puff Puff & the Receivers, Abby Birds, Scout Niblett

EVANGELINE CAFE George Enslé (7:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE The Harlequins, Primm (8:00)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Graham Wilkinson (6:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Mike Barfield (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Fabs (6:30)

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man

HI-LO Trey Stapleton (10:30)

THE HIDEOUT COFFEESHOP Derrick Davis (10:00)

HILL'S CAFE Captain Legendary

HOLE IN THE WALL Bankrupt & the Borrowers, Sedium, Like Dogs, Ramifications (10:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus, Jenny Reynolds, Bob Cheevers, Randy Weeks (7:00)

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LA PALAPA Steven Franks

LA ZONA ROSA The Wallers

LAMBERTS Falcon Buddies, Focus Group, Dr. Zoom (10:30)

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic (7:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE JJ Usher (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE BoomBox ATX (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Tungsten Coil, Mercy Mercedes (9:00), The Fatal Attractions (10:00)

MOHAWK The Bronze Age, Siberian

MOMO'S Nathan Hubble, Chelle Murray, Sun Machine, Bobby Bookout, Marcus Utters & the Blackland (6:30)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

MONARCH EVENT CENTER

Casa Marianella/Posada Esperanza Benefit w/ Buscando el Monte, Lannaya, Ritmo 3, Grupo Fantasma, Atash (7:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NUNO'S NORTH J.T. Coldfire (7:00)

NUNZIA'S John Kelley

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Texas Renegade

THE OAKS Mr. Joe Band, Gatling & Hoffpauir, the Love Band, Patty Finney, Donnie Green

ONE 2 ONE BAR Derrick Davis (10:00)

THE PARISH Psychedelic Shack w/ All in the Golden Afternoon, Soundpool, Ringo Deathstarr

THE PARLOR Trodus, El Paso Heist

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Melody Mann (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck

QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY Wino Vino, Wax Museums, Electric Mountain

Rotten Apple Gang (8:00)

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Ricky Stein & the Shiners

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6TH STREET FOR GROWN UPS

THURSDAY Apr 17 - TWO BANDS!
It's THIRSTY THURSDAY - 20oz PINTS \$4!
WYNN TAYLOR @ 7:30
TUMBLEWEED RACER @ 10:30

FRIDAY Apr 18 - 10:30
TEXCELLERATORS!

SATURDAY Apr 19 - 10:30
MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ

Don't Miss Blues Legend
HOSEA HARGROVE @ 10PM
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THU 4/17 **RICKY STEIN & THE SHINERS**
FRI 4/18 **KINGS OF HARD LUCK**
SAT 4/19 **HEYBALE!**
SUN 4/20 **OPEN MIC WITH GLENN ALLEN**
MON 4/21 **FREE POOL & JUKEBOX**
TUE 4/22 **JASON BEDNORZ**
WED 4/23 **AMANDA PEARCY**


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THU Bike Night
THIRD STEEL 8PM

FRI MILHOUSE 9PM

SAT Jeremy Miller Band 9PM

SUN Karaoke 8PM

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THURSDAY, APRIL 17 • 7PM
GEORGE ENSLE

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 • 10PM • \$5
HANS FRANK

MONDAY, APRIL 21 • 6:30PM
CHARLES THIBODEAUX

TUESDAY, APRIL 22
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER AND GREG ANDERSON 8PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 • 7PM
DANNY BRITT

Hole in the Wall
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2538 GUADALUPE

THURSDAY April 17th
Ramifications 12:50am
Like Dogs 12pm
Sedium 11pm
Bankrupt & the Borrowers 10pm

FRIDAY April 18th
Nic Armstrong 12:30am
Prayer for Animals 11:30pm
Haunting Oboe Music 10:30pm
Brothers O' Hair 9:30pm \$5

SATURDAY April 19th
Mockery Birds 11:30
The Archibalds 10:30
Empty Cupboards 9:30

ON THE PATIO: DJ Nimrod Cane
til' 2am (psych, soul, r&b...)

SUNDAY April 20th
Rogue River String Band 11pm
Squidley 10pm
Suzanne Hall 9pm
Black Sheperd w/ Deacon Willy 8pm

MONDAY April 21st
In Situ Sound 12am
Mira Loma 11pm
Wiretree 10pm

TUESDAY April 22nd
Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business 10p
Roger Wallace 8:30pm

ON THE PATIO: \$5 The Austin Comedy
Trainwreck "A- List Showcase" 9pm

WEDNESDAY April 23rd
Lonesome Heroes 12:30pm
tba 11:30pm
The Beaumonts 10:30pm
R.G. Stark 9:30pm

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6PM TILKILLOWATT
9PM DOORS
9:30PM-2AM "TOAST" JAM SANDWICH W/BLOOD
DIAMONZ, TOAST AND SPECIAL GUEST
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FRI 4/18 **REBIRTH BRASS BAND**
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Ruta Maya

SUN 4/20 **FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY**
Full Moon Rock-N-Roll Revival
John Lennon Hoot
6 PM-2 AM 18 Bands & More

MON 4/21 **8 PM The Finer Things
Featuring Sick**

TUESDAYS ARE OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!
6 PM Poetry Open Mic
9 PM Music Open Mic
8 PM Poetry Karaoke on Porch

TUE 4/22

WED 4/23 **CUBAN DANCE NIGHT**
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM
Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

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FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar

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& LAMAR**

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THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 6:30-9:30PM

The Hudsons

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 7-10:30PM

**Ryan Harkrider
& the Pajamas**

**38TH &
MEDICAL PKWY**

451-5245

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 7PM

Slackey Family Band

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 7PM

Hollywood Indians

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 7PM

Jim's Country Jam

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 7PM

The T Jerrod Trio

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 8PM

Ptarmigan

WATERLOO

Ice House

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FULL BAR!**

THE SCOOT INN

BIER GARTEN
11 Local Drafts
2 full bars * 2 stages

Thursday, April 17, 9pm

Woodsboss

CD release

JWW & the Prospectors

Friday, April 18, 8pm

**Jesse Sublett
Jon Dee Graham
Stayton Bonner
The Platforms
DJ Radicon**

Saturday, April 19, 9pm

**Mr. Lewis
& the Funeral 5
Good Times Crisis
Band and Guests**

Sunday, April 20, 8pm

Blue Squeezebox

Wednesday, April 24, 7:30pm

Austin Poetry Slam

1308 East 4th Street at Navasota

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club listings << FROM THURSDAY

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Gary Hoey

ROOM 710 Dism, Dead Haven, Painfilled Silence, Dead Earth Politics

RUTA MAYA Blood Diamondz, Toast, Dimitri's Ascent (9:30)

SAXON PUB Candiland, Jeff Strahan, Band of Heathens, George Devore (6:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Woodsboss (9:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.

SKY LOUNGE Adam Freeland

SPEAKEASY Subrosa Union (9:30)

SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE DJ Hobo D

STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Outside: Irration, Redeye Empire, Pepper Chrontourage Event; Inside Later: Murder, My Sweet

T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Roger Len Smith

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Lucky Strikes (7:30)

THE TRIANGLE Anthony Eby (7:00)

TROPHY'S Monuments, Distant Seconds, Confuzatron

VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low Stars (8:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS The Waybacks (5:00)

Z'TEJAS Latin at Heart (6:00)

Fri 1 8

311 CLUB Erin Jaimes, Joe Valentine (8:30)

ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/ AUSTIN CITY LIMITS The Hudsons (1:00)

ALAMO DRAFHOUSE AT THE RITZ Negativland (9:30)

ANTONE'S Ron Sexsmith, Nick Lowe

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Studebakers

B.B. ROVERS Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Rick Harvey & the Textcellorators

BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR Michael Samuels (7:00)

BEAUTY BAR Astronautilus

THE BELMONT The Busta' Moovalators (9:00)

BLUE DAHLIA BISTRO Joseph La Fave (8:00)

BOAT HOUSE GRILL Byrd & Street

BOTTICELLI'S Lucky Strikes

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dale Watson

BUSTER'S BBQ Erik Hokkanen (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Ray Wylie Hubbard (9:00)

CAFE MUNDI Owen Summers

CAMP BEN MCCULLOCH Martin Sexton, Delbert McClinton, Bettye LaVette, Eliza Gilkyson (noon)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chapparral Dixielanders

CLUB DE VILLE Save Edie! Benefit w/ Canopy, Jason & Cari, the Early Tapes, Martin Crane (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), James Hand (12mid)

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz

COTTON CLUB People's Choice (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Abra Moore

EL JACALITO Ritmo Tejano w/ Jesse Botello

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Tony Airoidi & the Lounge Gypsies, Kat Edmonson

EVANGELINE CAFE Hans Frank

FADÓ Mysterious Ways (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Luciano Hughes (6:00)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Sarah Furr's Family Dining Carlton Lombard (6:00)

GIDDY UPS Jimi Lee's Harmonica Blowout

GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE The Gunhands

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights (6:30)

HANOVER'S Relentless Jones, Code Blue

HEADHUNTERS Nematoads, the Bricks ATX, Hard Luck Heroes, Head Panic

HI-LO Goldcure

HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE Matt Maye (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Nic Armstrong, Prayer for Animals, Haunting Oboe Music (10:00)

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR DJ Bullet (6:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Pound Dogs (8:00)

JOVITA'S The Eggmen (7:00)

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LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR Jul & Chrome Wheels

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE The Handsomes (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Gold Teeth & Gucci, Clay Nightingale, Famby

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MOHAWK Throw Me the Statue, Ruby Suns, Golden Bear

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NUNZIA'S Li'l Steph & the Chromatics

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Carolyn Wonderland

ONE 2 ONE BAR Dr. Scoob (10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Acoustic Alchemy (7:00, 9:30)

THE PARISH Skiesfalling, My Education, Soundpool, the Boxing Lesson

THE PARLOR Rogue River String Band

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Doctor G. & the Mudcats (8:00)

PLUSH Hump! w/ Majora y Minora (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Rick "Lonesome Dove" Kincaid, Dickie Lee Erwin & the Swingin' Dickies, Dickie Lee Erwin

PROGRESS COFFEE Ethan Azarian, Miss Jackson (7:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED FEZ La Vonne, DJ Inverse

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RHIZOME COLLECTIVE KVRX Benefit w/ Fizzy Dino Pop, Ghostthuster, Dimitri's Ascent, Maneja Beto, Silent Land Time Machine, Matt Dayton, Mermaid Blonde, I Kill Cars, Troublesome Trio (7:30)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

RUTA MAYA Capital Area Food Bank Benefit w/ the Rebirth Brass Band

THE SALT LICK Old Settler's Music Festival, HAAM Fundraiser w/ Flyin' \$ Bunkhouse Band, Belleville Outfit, Slim Richey, Jitterbug Vipers, Green Mountain Grass, Eliza Gilkyson, Cadillac Sky, the Waybacks, David Grisman, Bettye LaVette, Martin Sexton, Flounders Without Eyes, Delbert McClinton (10:00am)

SAM'S TOWN POINT The Rattlers

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Omar & the Howlers (9:00)

APHRODITE'S

AN UNINHIBITED NIGHT CLUB FOR ADVENTUROUS COUPLES

Pimps and Hookers Ball

Costume Party - Saturday, April 26

Ladies, dress the part, be a tart!
Earn a spot on our "Street Corner of Fame"
in the Hooker of the Year contest.

www.aphroditesforum.com D.J. - B.Y.O.B. - 928-9876

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DEAD EARTH POLITICS
PAINFILLED SILENT
DEAD HAVEN
DISM

Fri 4.18
THE INDEPENDENTS
TURBO 350
PICKLED PUNKS
BLOOD MOON HOWLERS
DEMENTERS

Sat 4.19
EVERY OTHER FATE
TAUNTO
BLOODSHOT PYRAMID
TRAINS TO HOLLAND
8pm: Sado-Massachussetts

Sun 4.20
STONE DAKOTA
DUMB
RISE THY RUIN
CODE NAME CODE

Mon 4.21
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 4.22
ACOMA
AUTONS
THE LAST HUMANS
8pm: The Invincible Czars

Wed 4.23
WINO VINO
McMERCY FAMILY BAND
COUNTRY WILLIE

UPCOMING SHOWS
4.24 Bat Castle, Engaged In Mutation, Ayasbuc 4.25 Roger's Pom Collection
Deslorobias 4.26 Brewedly Inc., The Bulmeris 4.30 The Factory Party

RED 7
611 E. 7TH STREET
myspace.com/redsevenaustin

Thu 4/17
Bloodsoaked, Atrocious Abnormality
Engaged In Mutlating, Martyred

Fri 4/18
Capital Scam, Knocked Out Stiffs
Blank Generation, Reagan Era
Slowly Truth Dies, Molotov Compromise
Slumlord, Urban Sprawl

Sat 4/19
Inside: Deadbolt
Hotrod Hillbillies, Corinne Rose, DJ Timurphy
Outside: J.F.A. w/ANS, Bark Hard
Human Struggle, Condemned Unit

Tue 4/22
CONVERGE
w/ Red Chord, Coliseum
Genghis Tron, The_Network

Wed 4/23
VITAL REMAINS
Monstrosity, Sarcolytic, Forever In Terror

Thu 4/24
Early show: Crash Romeo, Tubring, PDA
Late show: Today Is The Day, At All Cost + more!

Beauty BAR
april

17th Orion w/ NBD

18th Astronautilus
Single Frame w/ Dj Tate
PRINCE KLASSEN

19th JanOrth w/
Eamon Harkin

20th Misfortune 500
EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT

23rd LOMITA
THE STEPS

617 E. 7th myspace.com/beautybaraustin
www.beautybar.com 512.391.1943



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th 17 Deadly Companions, The Bad
Motivators

fr 18 ready steady go-
Forever Changes, Belfuries,
Hacienda

sa 19 The Dirty Sound, The McMERCY
Family, Cellar Door

su 20 Australian Cattle God Records
Nite- Reid Wilson and His So-
Called Friends, and more

mo 21 BEERLAND'S LEGENDARY
ROCK N ROLL KARAOKE!
tu 22 closed

we 23 The Fence monsters vs the Shitty
Beach Boys, Harlem

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BEERLANDTEXAS.COM
& CHECK OUT A BAND YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE

HEADHUNTERS
720 Red River www.headhuntersclub.com (512) 236-0188

4/17 THR: 12:30 MONKIES DOIN IT, 11:30 ESCAPING GRAVITY(SHUGEE), 10:30 EVOLENO,
10:30 KARAOKE/DJ-"SING FOR YOUR LIFE"

4/18 FRI: 1 HEAD PANIC, 12 HARDLUCK HEROS, 11 BRICKS ATX, 10 NEMATODS

4/19 SAT: 1 OKLAHOMOS, 12 HIT ANDRUN, 11 SORELOSERS, 10 SCRAPS OF LIFE

4/20 SUN: 12:30 SUNGLASSES & MUSHROOMS, 11:30 SIR JHON, 10:30 I AM MAMMON

4/22 TUE: 12 SLUMLORD, 11 CAPITAL CRIMES 4/23 WED: 12 NEGRO SEX FARM, 11 SMOKIN TOADS

4/24 THR: !!!-BANG-!!!, ROBERT JOHNSON'S SOUL, KARAOKE/DJ on PATIO

4/25 FRI: 1 SABBATH CROW, 12 STREET LIGHT SUSIE, 11 CHASING PHOENIX, 10 ESE, 7:30 THE BEAUMONTS (H-Hour)

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THURSDAY APRIL 17 THE VERY LAST SHOW
THE OCCIDENTALS
BASE
PAPERWORK
86 THE SUN

SATURDAY-APRIL 19 THE WAR AGAINST SLEEP
THE NIGHT LIGHT SIGNAL BURN
BALANCE ACT
SUPERHOUSE
DR. ZOOM

MONDAY-APRIL 21 NEW BAND NIGHT
FOR BOOKING CALL MIKE
512-417-8064

WEDNESDAY-APRIL 23 GREAT NORTHERN GUNS
COBALT GROOVE
THE RED AIRPLANES
DIGNAN

FRIDAY-APRIL 25 BRINK OF DISASTER
IRONIC GORILLA PROJECT
LUG
PAINFILLED SILENT
CHAPTER OF RESISTANCE

UPCOMING SHOWS
05/02 - HEARTBREAK IN ACTION, THE SKINNY, DISCONNECTED
05/03 - ONE EYED BOLL COMING HOME SHOW W/MIKE TRUTH
05/10 - DISTANT LIGHTS CD RELEASE SHOW
05/10 - VAST
05/29 - GRAVEYARD BBQ
05/31 - DANGEROUS TOYS

ELYSIUM
705 RED RIVER ST.
Thursday • Apr. 17 SPECIAL EVENT!
METAL ASYLUM
80's Metal Night
WITH DJs JIMMY & DONNA THE DEAD
Happy Birthday to Donna the Dead!

Friday • Apr. 18 SPECIAL EVENT!
Indie Electro New Wave &
Britpop with DJ FILTHY RICH Postpunk

Saturday • Apr. 19 HAVEN
goth, industrial, synthpop, & EURO DANCE
HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER
featuring an early live music performance by
THANATOS 10:00 PM
www.myspace.com/thanatos

Sunday • Apr. 20 REGRESSION
RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • Apr. 22 90'S NIGHT
So LAST CENTURY... 90's Night
WITH DJs BOBA FETT & MINIMUS

Wednesday • Apr. 23 MID-WAVE
UNDERGROUND retro & OLD SCHOOL goth
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri. Apr. 25 • Live! VOLTAIRE,
w/ EGO LIKENESS & CTRL
tickets available at Secret Oktober

Thu. May 1 • Live! Gabhar, Limiter, Awen

Fri. May 2 • Live! Ex-VoTo (NO, LA),
Lust Murder Box, Opulent (Houston)

Fri. May 8 • Live! COLONY 5,
w/ Before Dawn
tickets available soon at Secret Oktober

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified
more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net • (512) 478-2979
• www.myspace.com/elysiumaustin •

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DOORS / BAR @ 6PM
SHOW @ 7PM

SECOND SHOW
DOORS / BAR @ 9PM
SHOW @ 9:30PM

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FOR INFORMATION CALL 512-263-4146. WWW.BILLCOSBY.COM WWW.ROZONEPRODUCTIONS.COM

calendar » COMMUNITY » ARTS » MUSIC

club listings ◀◀ FROM THURSDAY

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Gary Hoey
ROOM 710 Dism, Dead Haven, Painfilled Silence, Dead Earth Politics
RUTA MAYA Blood Diamondz, Toast, Dimitri's Ascent (9:30)
SAXON PUB Candiland, Jeff Strahan, Band of Heathens, George Devore (6:00)
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Woodsboss (9:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
SKY LOUNGE Adam Freeland
SPEAKEASY Subrosa Union (9:30)
SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE DJ Hobo D
STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Outside: Iration, Redeye Empire, Pepper Chrontourage Event; Inside Later: Murder, My Sweet
T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Roger Len Smith
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Lucky Strikes (7:30)
THE TRIANGLE Anthony Eby (7:00)
TROPHY'S Monuments, Distant Seconds, Confuzatron
VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low Stars (8:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS The Waybacks (5:00)
Z'TEJAS Latin at Heart (6:00)

Fri 1 8

311 CLUB Erin Jaimes, Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/ AUSTIN CITY LIMITS The Hudsons (1:00)
ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ Negativland (9:30)
ANTONE'S Ron Sexsmith, Nick Lowe
ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Studebakers
B.B. ROVERS Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Rick Harvey & the Textcellorators
BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR Michael Samuels (7:00)
BEAUTY BAR Astronautilus
THE BELMONT The Busta' Moovalators (9:00)
BLUE DAHLIA BISTRO Joseph La Fave (8:00)

BOAT HOUSE GRILL Byrd & Street
BOTTICELLI'S Lucky Strikes
'BOUT TIME DJ Element
BROKEN SPOKE Dale Watson
BUSTER'S BBQ Erik Hokkanen (6:00)
CACTUS CAFE Ray Wylie Hubbard (9:00)
CAFE MUNDI Owen Summers
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CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chapparral Dixielanders
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EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)
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EVANGELINE CAFE Hans Frank
FADÓ Mysterious Ways (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Luciano
FREDDIE'S PLACE Sarah Hughes (6:00)
FURR'S FAMILY DINING Carlton Lombard (6:00)
GIDDY UPS Jimi Lee's Harmonica Blowout
GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE The Gunhands
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights (6:30)
HANOVER'S Relentless Jones, Code Blue
HEADHUNTERS Nematoads, the Bricks ATX, Hard Luck Heroes, Head Panic
HI-LO Goldcure
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LUCKY LOUNGE The Handsomes (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Gold Teeth & Gucci, Clay Nightingale, Famby
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MOHAWK Throw Me the Statue, Ruby Suns, Golden Bear
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
NUNZIA'S Li'l Steph & the Chromatics
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Carolyn Wonderland
ONE 2 ONE BAR Dr. Scoob (10:00)
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THE PARISH Skiesfalling, My Education, Soundpool, the Boxing Lesson
THE PARLOR Rogue River String Band
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RED FEZ La Vonne, DJ Inverse
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SAM'S TOWN POINT The Rattlers
SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Omar & the Howlers (9:00)

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THU, APR 17 **JESSE DAYTON**
DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM
FRI, APR 18 **DALE WATSON**
THE DERAILERS
SAT, APR 19 **BO PORTER** 8-1030 NO COVER
TUE, APR 22 **TONY HARRISON** 6-8PM
WED, APR 23 **DOUG MORELAND** 9PM

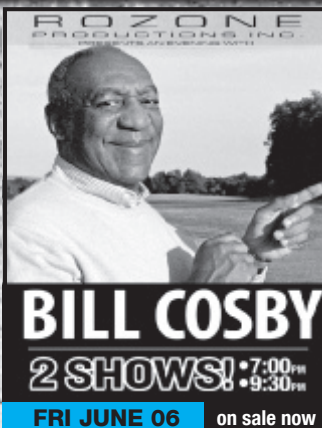
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BRIAN REGAN
LIVE EVENT
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96.7 PRESENTS THE BOBBY BONES BIG SUMMER SHOW
FLO RIDA
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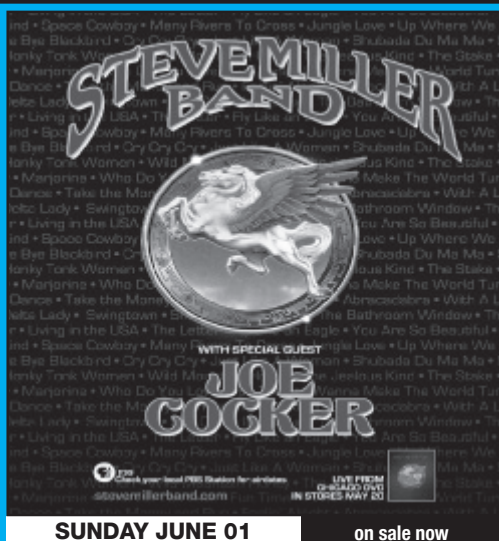
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2 SHOWS! 7:00pm - 9:30pm
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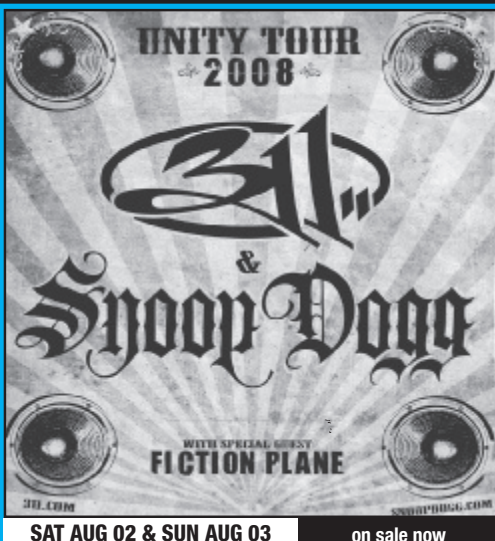
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mindless self indulgence
WITH THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE
SUNDAY APRIL 2 on sale now



TONIGHT!
The Waiters
Featuring: ELO In Concert with D-MADNESS
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THIS SUNDAY!



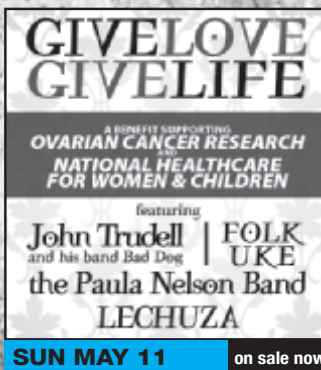
Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks
w/ The Joggers
SUN APR 20 on sale now



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SOLD OUT
THU MAY 01



MASON JENNINGS **MISSY HIGGINS**
FRI MAY 09 on sale now



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A BENEFIT SUPPORTING
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Featuring: John Trudell | FOLK and his band Bad Dog | UKE the Paula Nelson Band | LECHUZA
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GEORGE DEVORE 10:15 \$8
THE BAND OF HEATHENS 8:00 \$8
JEFF STRAHAN 12:30 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **CANDILAND**
THURSDAY APR. 17



OMAR & THE HOWLERS 9:00 \$10
WHISKEY BENT & HELL BOUND 11:00 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour every Friday at 6:00 with **THE REGULARS**
FRIDAY APR. 18

SETH WALKER 11:00 \$10
J.T. COLDFIRE 9:30 \$10
LISA HAYES 8:00 \$10
SATURDAY APR. 19



THE RESENTMENTS 7:30 \$7
CHARLIE FAYE 10:15 \$5
STEVEN WILL & THE SALINGERS 12:30
SUNDAY APR. 20

BOB SCHNEIDER'S LONELYLAND 8:30 \$10
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7:00 \$10
JEFF PLANKENHORN 11:00 \$5
RYAN HARKRIDER 12:30 \$5
MONDAY APR. 21

SUNNY SWEENEY 7:00 \$5
BRUCE HUGHES 9:00 \$5
JAMES BULLARD 11:30 \$5
TUESDAY APR. 22

MEAGAN TUBB & SHADY PEOPLE 10:00 \$5
BRITNI HOOVER 8:00 \$5
JOSH GRIDER 12:00 \$5
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **BO PORTER**
WEDNESDAY APR. 23

Coming soon to the Saxon Pub:

APRIL 25 - CAROLYN WONDERLAND
APRIL 26 - JEFF HUGHES & CHAPARRAL

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Every Fri ~ Happy Hr 5-7pm ~ Chris Montgomery
9pm ~ **Seven O'Nein** (Jason Austin Spinning!)



.....

Every Saturday
Colin Gilmore

.....

Mondays ~ T Jarrod Bonta Western Swing Piano
Wed 23~ \$2 Beers & \$3 Wine!!!
 with Jim Halfpenny
Sun's & Tues' - No Music, its Social Nite!

Barton Springs ~ tha Original
1601 Barton Sprgs ~ 480-8646

.....

Thur 17 the Harlequins ~ Ray Prim
.....



Friday 18
Outdoor Show!!

Asylum St.
Spankers

Sarah Temple
.....

Sat 19 ~ King Tears ~ Sik's Pak
Sun 20 ~ Ear to Anon ~ All to Sea
Mon 21~ HCMS & WRMS Bass Stdnt Band
Some Say Leland

Tue 22 ~ Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
Wed 23 ~ Hudson Mueller (of the Hudson's)

MOLOTOV
 **LOUNGE**
WEST SIXTH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD LOUNGE

EVENTS THIS WEEK

thursday 4/17

THIRD THURSDAY REVOLUTION
with
DJ MINDSET
from new orleans

saturday 4/19



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719 W SIXTH ST 512.499.0600

Sun 20

ANTONE'S Mike Doughty (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert Rivera
AUDITORIUM SHORES Reggae
 Fest Capital Area Food Bank
 Benefit w/ Qwicksand, Lionhead,
 Ryan Scroggins & the
 Trenchtown TXans, Jah Roots,
 Mr. Brown, Mau Mau Chaplains,
 Culture *Chrontourage* event
 (noon)
B.B. ROVERS Open Mic w/ Mojo
 & Josef (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish
 Tunes Session (8:00)
BOTTICELLI'S Cool Hand Luke
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton
 Adams
CAMP BEN MCCULLOCH Old
 Settler's Music Festival, HAAM
 Fundraiser w/ Rockin' Gospel
 Project, Bearfoot, Blackie &
 the Rodeo Kings, Infamous
 Stringdusters (10:00am)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
 w/ Brian
CONTINENTAL CLUB Fingerpistol
 (3:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly
 Playboyz (7:00)
**DOLCE VITA GELATTO &
 ESPRESSO BAR** Paul
 Sonnenberg, Bossa Nova
 (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
 Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Glenn Rexach
 Trio (9:30)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro
 Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam
 (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN Saloon Redd Volkaert (4:00)
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Blue Light Special (3:00)
HEADHUNTERS I Am Mammon, Sir John, Sunglasses & Mushrooms
HOLE IN THE WALL Black Shepherd w/ Deacon Willy, Suzanne Hall, Squidley, Rogue River String Band
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Kinktet, Eric Telford Collective, Le Sex, DJ Yerf Nosaj (11:00am)
JOVITA'S Amber Lucille (6:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Stephen Malkmus & the Jicks, the Jiggers
LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (7:00)
LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Les & the Funk Mob (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Mic Jonez, Gobi
MANUEL'S Boomer Norman (11:30am)
MOHAWK Collie Buddz
MOMO'S Jenny Reynolds, Marshall Ford Swing Band, Belleville Outfit, Dennis Ludiker & Noah Jeffries (7:00)
NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

See **austinchronicle.com**
for complete listings.

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty,
Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites
(8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
(11:00am)

THE OASIS The Brew

ONE 2 ONE BAR Matt Creaton
(10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Leon
Russell (6:00, 8:30)

THE PARLOR Havilah

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/
Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/
Glenn Allen

ROADHOUSE RAGS Beautiful
Mistake, Carson Brock (5:00)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

RUTA MAYA The Lovely Sparrows
Hacienda, A Few Nice Things,
Ripe, the Tunnels, Viet Minh,
the Bellfuries, Shapes Have
Fangs, Nic Armstrong, the
Boxing Lesson, Golden Bear,
the Channel, the Story Of, LZ
Love, 3 Balls of Fire, Augustine
Sumner Erickson & the
Textcentrics, Lalaland (6:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments,
Charlie Faye, the Salingers

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/
Billy D

SKI SHORES Stephen Doster &
Will Sexton (5:00)

STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Brunch:
The Gospel Silvertones
(11am); Later: Appaloosa, Cat
Power

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/
Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate
Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sunday
Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

sat
4/19/08



deadbolt

WITH HOT ROD HILLBILLIES, CORINNE
ROSE, DJ TIMURPHY (INSIDE STAGE)

JFA

8PM
(PATIO STAGE)

WITH ANS, BARKHARD, HUMAN STRUGGLE
(EX SPAZM 151), CONDEMNED UNIT

@ RED 7



sat
4/19/08
+
RICHARD HENRY
AND DJ P-NYCE
9PM @ MOHAWK

sun
4/20/08
w/ GRIMY STYLES
AND ZEALE 32



collie buddz

@ MOHAWK


tue
 4/22/08
converge
 WITH THE RED CHORD,
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 & the Jahmessennah Band with mikey general

SATURDAY APRIL 19TH
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 Dr. Dubbist opens 9:00

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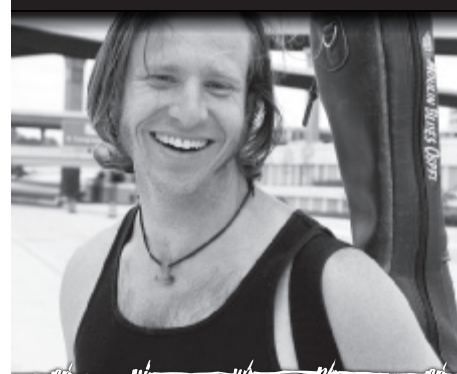
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CAROLYN WONDERLAND
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SATURDAY, APRIL • 19
GUY FORSYTH
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 WED & THUR - 8PM
 FRI & SAT - 9PM

LIVE SALSA MUSIC
THE BREW
 THURSDAYS 9PM

AFRICAN NIGHT
RATTLETREE MARIMBA
 GUEST DJ TEGO
 04/19 - 10PM

WEDNESDAYS
ACADEMICOS DA OPERA
PRACTICE SESSION - 7PM
SEU JACINTO - 4/23
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FREE LIVE MUSIC @ Central Market

@CENTRAL PARK

FRIDAY APRIL 18
SUZANNA CHOFFEL
 SOULFUL GROOVES

SATURDAY APRIL 19
 'SALSA CENTRAL'
 3RD ANNUAL SALSA DANCE CONTEST
 MUSIC BY
THE CIENFUEGOS
 CONTEST MUSIC BY DJ FABIAN

SUNDAY APRIL 20
GLENN REXACH TRIO
 JAZZ

FRIDAY APRIL 25
LOST & NAMELESS ORCHESTRA
 CELTIC, APPALACHIAN

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 6:30 - 9 PM
 SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM

@WESTGATE

THURSDAY APRIL 17
FLYING BALALAIKA BROTHERS
 RUSSIAN

SUNDAY APRIL 20
LOS KLEZMEROS
 JEWISH

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23
TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS
 BLUES

THURSDAY APRIL 24
DARIN LAYNE
 SOULFUL GROOVES

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 6:30 - 9 PM
 SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM

3RD ANNUAL SALSA DANCE CONTEST SATURDAY APRIL 19
 SPONSORED BY DANCE INTERNATIONAL
 PRIZES PER COUPLE: 1st place \$250, 2nd place \$150, 3rd place \$100
 Amateurs and Couples only.
 4/25 OLIVER RAJAMANI, 4/25 & 26 TEXAS COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL
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SAT. KALU JAMES 7PM
SUN. ROBIN SMITH 12PM

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TUESDAYS 7PM OPEN-MIC

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WHERE LIVE MUSIC & SPORTS COLLIDE

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

DOUG MORRISON 10PM

MEYVYN 11PM

TOURING NATIONAL ACT

GARY HOEY 12AM

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

CO-OP 8PM

COURSE OF RUIN 10PM

NATHAN'S 11PM

STUPID DRAMA 12AM

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

BLOOD OF THE LAMB 9PM

REND 10PM

SOUTHERN FRONT 11PM

COURSE OF RUIN 12AM

ENEMY OF MANKIND 1AM

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

BRAGGER'S BRUNCH 12PM - 3PM

COME TELL YOUR ROAD OR WEEKEND STORIES WHILE NURSING YOUR HANGOVER WITH \$2 WELL RITAS, BLOODY MARYS & BLOODY BEERS

\$2 BREAKFAST TACOS AND SPORTS BAR MENU.

OAKLAHOMO'S 3PM

SONS OF 4PM

DORK STAR 5PM

AMERITRASH 6PM

MONDAY, APRIL 21

LIVE BAND KARAOKE WITH THE ROCK

CITY ICEHOLES 10-1AM

ALSO, COME WATCH WRESTLING ON 15 PLASMA SCREENS FROM 8-10PM AND SEE ALL YOUR FAVORITE STARS.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

HAPPY HOUR PATIO PARTY WITH AN ACOUSTIC SET BY AJ VALLEJO AND ZAC BAKER 6-8PM

MARSHALL DILLON 9PM

DARK SUNGLASSES 10PM

CRUNCH TIME 11PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

THE LOCALS 8PM

THE LITTLE MORTS 9PM

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calendar ▸ COMMUNITY ▸ ARTS ▸ FILM ▸ MUSIC

Mon 2 1

ANTONE'S Flyjack, Uncle Bruno, Dizzy Gillespie & the Broken Souls

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Rhinoroom del Norte (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

BEAUTY BAR The Shackeltons

BEERLAND Karaoke w/ John Chapman

BOTTICELLI'S Aimee Bobruk

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Horse Operas, Doug Warriner & His Only Band

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Uptown Swingsters (6:30), James Intveld (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Funktronica (10:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Wiretree, Mira Loma, In Situ Sound (10:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen & His Gypsy Tribe (6:30), DJ Mel (10:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic Night

MOMO'S Courtney Patton, Candiland, Jeremy Nail, Dustin Welch, Nathan Singleton's Sideshow Tragedy

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers

MUGSHOTS Open Mic w/ Acoustic Odyssey (8:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

THE PARISH Tift Merritt, Naim

THE PARLOR Javier Cruz

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie

RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)

RUTA MAYA The Finer Things w/ Sick (8:00)

Tue 2 2

SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30)

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Jeff Plankenhorn

SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell

STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Dimmu Borgir, Keep of Kalessin, Behemoth

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Lee Duffy, Will Sexton, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuys (8:00)

Wed 2 3

311 CLUB D-Madness (9:30)

ANTONE'S Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, Pinetop Perkins, Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, David Grissom (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

B.B. ROVERS The Love Band, Buster Gutbucket

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

THE BELMONT Suzanna Choffel (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Gypzee Heart

CACTUS CAFE Tea Merchants (9:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Mira Loma

CONTINENTAL CLUB Toni Price & Rich Brotherton (6:30), Alejandro Escovedo, Frogleg (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Chicken Strut (9:30)

ELYSIUM 90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallagher, Greg Anderson (6:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HANOVER'S Kevin Havron & Steven Franks (8:30)

HEADHUNTERS Capital Crimes, Slumlord

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice

JOVITA'S Jodi Adair, Billy Dee

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE The Couch, Bombardment by Aeroplane (10:00)

MOHAWK Devon Williams

MOMO'S Randy Weeks, Sis Deville, La Tampiquena, Lowell Green

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Stephanie Bradley

ONE 2 ONE BAR All-Star Jam w/ Ady Hernandez (10:00)

THE PARISH The Black & White Years, Tigercity, VHS or Beta

THE PARLOR Abigail & Hansel

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

RED 7 Converge, Coliseum, Genghis Tron, the Red Chord

RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heatherns (9:00)

SAXON PUB Julieann Banks, James Bullard, Bruce Hughes, Sunny Sweeney

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Bill Davis, Sonny

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (7:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS Nelo (5:00)

Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura Quartet (6:00)

myspace.com/dirtydogbar 505 E. 6th St

Thursday 04/17

Carribbean Nights

Saturday 04/19

Austin Reggae Fest afterparty

Mr. Brown Dubkids

Tuesday 04/21

Redneck Jazz & Jazz Jam

Friday 04/18

Mark Allan Altwood

Matt Begley & Bitter Whiskey

Sunday 04/20

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Wednesday 04/22

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Fri 04/18 | The Harold Ambler Project
9:30pm \$5 cover

Birthday Bash!
Sat 04/19 | **Freddie Steady Krc**
featuring The Explosives' Cam King, Cornell Hurd, Jenny Wolfe, & special guests!
9:30pm No Cover

04/24 Earl Poole Ball & The Roadhouse Scholars
04/25 Lisa Mills
04/26 Ray Cashman
Mississippi is in the house!
And don't you dare miss: May Day with Ray!
05/01 The Ray Benson Trio
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FRI 4/18 | **RELENTLESS JONES 7:30PM**
CODE BLUE 10PM

SAT 4/19 | **KING ONUS 8PM**
PRIDE & JOY 10PM

SUN 4/20 | **FREE POKER 5 & 8PM**
BARNYARD BINGO 5PM

EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, & WEDNESDAY | **SIN NIGHT 10PM-1AM**

TUES 4/22 | **STEVEN FRANKS**
KEVIN HAVRON 8:30PM

WED 4/23 | **OPEN MIC WITH CARSON ALEXANDER 8PM**

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Friday 04/18 | **Will Taylor & Strings** Attached
The Beatles Show
9:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Sat 04/19 | **Cas Haley** of Woodbelly
Subrosa Union, Chris Hawkes
9:00pm \$20 advance/\$25 door

Sun 04/20 | **Gospel Brunch**
LZ Love
11:00am Indoors, Free

Mon 04/21 | **Lee Duffy & Friends**
Will Sexton, Joe Manuel, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuil
8:00pm Indoors, Free

Friday 04/25 | **Bob Schneider's**
Texas Bluegrass Massacre
10:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Sat 04/26 | **Jimmy LaFave**
BettySoo
9:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Friday 05/02 | **Slaid Cleaves**
Gurf Morlix
9:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Sat 05/03 | **Willis Alan Ramsey**
Allison Rogers
9:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Friday 05/09 | **The Greencards**
Sarah Jarosz
9:00pm \$15 advance/\$15 door

Coming Soon!
May 4 - Gulf Coast Extravaganza
May 11 - Mandolin Mayhem
May 24 - Hayes Carll
May 31 - The Waybacks & The Dixie Bee-Liners
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MERKABA
LOUNGE & GRILL

THU APR 17 | **CAMERON ROAD 6PM**
TUNGSTEN COIL 10PM
MERCY MERCEDES 11PM

FRI APR 18 | **CAMERON ROAD 6PM**
LC ROCKS 10PM

SAT APR 19 | **TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER 1, 4 & 7PM** NO ENTRY FEE
\$200 CASH PRIZE
UFC 83 NO COVER

SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAYS | **DJ TETSUO 9PM**
\$3 YOU CALL IT - \$7 PITCHERS

MON APR 21 | **TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER 6:30 & 9:30PM** NO ENTRY FEE
\$200 CASH PRIZE

TUE APR 22 | **PIANO BAR 10PM WITH MATT WILSON & MIKEY**

WED APR 23 | **CAMERON ROAD 6PM**
JJ USHER 9PM
CALLING JACK BURTON 9:30PM

THU APR 24 | **CAMERON ROAD 6PM**
THE FATAL ATTRACTIONS 10PM

FRI APR 25 | **DAN QUINN 6PM**
LATIN AT HEART DREMNT THE END 9PM
VALLEJO 10PM

SAT APR 26 | **TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER 1, 4, & 7PM** NO ENTRY FEE
\$200 CASH PRIZE
BINGE 9PM
I NEED MORE COWBELL 10PM
ALPHA REV 11PM

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No Bad Days
Poodie's Hilltop ROADHOUSE
Friday, April 18
DICKIE LEE ERWIN
AND THE SWINGIN DICKY'S
RICK "LONESOME DOVE" KINCAID (OPENER)

Saturday, April 19
SHAWN NELSON
DALLAS BURROW (OPENER)

Friday, April 25
PATSY THOMPSON
JANE PAYNE (OPENER)

Saturday, April 26
GUY FORSYTH
PETE MITCHELL (OPENER)

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THURSDAY, APRIL 17 SUBROSA UNION 9:30PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 LES AND THE FUNK MOB 9:30PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 19 TOO WHITE CREW 9:30PM

MONDAY, APRIL 21 S.I.N. JONATHAN TERRELL ON TERRACE 59 9:30PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 22 BLACKTOOTH 9:30PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW 9:30PM SALSALSS LESSONS 9PM

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Happy Hour

\$3 Cosmopolitan Martinis

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409 Colorado (Warehouse District)

calendar ▶ COMMUNITY ▶ ARTS ▶ FILM ▶ MUSIC

club listings ◀ ◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

CONTINENTAL CLUB Shotgun Party (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Kill the DJ, Smash-Ups, Robot, DJ Alib, Ghattotech w/ DJ Orion (9:30)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Alyssa Falk (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister
EVANGELINE CAFE Danny Britt
FRANK ERWIN CENTER Rush
GIDDY UPS Open Blues Jam w/ JJ Slyde & Jimi Lee (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Zach Walther & the Cronkites (6:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:30)
HANOVER'S Open Mic w/ Carson Alexander
HEADHUNTERS Smokin' Toads, Negro Sex Farm
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Ady Hernandez & Jeffrey David (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business, Roger Wallace (8:30)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Travis Damron (7:00)
JOVITA'S James Bullard, Blues Mafia (6:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Alpha Rev (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem (9:00)
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (10:00)
MOHAWK Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion
MOMO'S Clay Jeffrey, Austin Collins, Dan Dyer, Carter Beckworth (6:00)
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
NUNZIA'S Matt Giles (6:30)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Bruce Newman's Nutty Karaoke
ONE 2 ONE BAR Jeffrey David & Ady Hernandez (10:00)
THE OPERA HOUSE Dark Inside the Sun, Daniel Francis Doyle, Low Red Center (7:00)
THE PARLOR I Am Wolf, Fight Pretty
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser (8:00)
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ Atash
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood
SAXON PUB Bo Porter, Meagan Tubb, Paula Nelson, Josh Grider
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Poetry Slam (7:00)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Eve & the Exiles (8:30)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the Brew (9:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Thrice, Circa Survive, Pelican
TROPHY'S White Knuckle Drivers
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Parmigan (7:00)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Bill Carter

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Mike Barfield (9:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Johnny Gimble (6:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HI-LO Trey Stapleton (10:30)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Mike Maven & the Good Life (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Bankrupt & the Borrowers, Bridge Farmers, the Van Buren Boys (9:00)
JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Brewer Nation
LAMBERTS Tiny Adventurers, Pink Nasty, Paul Minor (10:30)
THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic (7:00)
LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Everyday People (6:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE KTSW MR Fest w/ Sputnik Monroe, Three Leaf, Spank, Funkotron (5:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
NUNZIA'S Shelton Ray & the Sting Rays
THE OAKS Mike Davis & Alicia Gill, Greg Whitfield & Mark Dotson, the Love Band, John Downing Band, Keith Webber, Patty Finney
THE PARLOR Hollywood Gossip
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Mark Jungers Band (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck
RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RUTA MAYA Spiral Dance, That Damned Band, Spiral Dance
SAXON PUB Band of Heathens, Jeff Plankenhorn, George Devore
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Woodsboss (9:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
SPEAKEASY JJ Usher (9:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-QUE Sounds Under Radio, Filter
T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)
THE TRIANGLE Brett McGinn, Drew Garza (7:00)
TROPHY'S The Bad Motivators, Nanosmash, the Scary Mondelos, Sedium
Z'TEJAS Lucky Strikes

Thu 2 4

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ANTONE'S Topaz, Kenny Wayne Shepherd (9:00)
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Herman the German (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Stephanie Bradley
THE BELMONT Bruce James Soultet (8:00)
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegall (7:00)
BOTTICELLI'S Havilah Tower
BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton
THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau
CACTUS CAFE Susan Gibsonm CD Release, Robyn Ludwick CD Release (8:00)
CAFE MUNDI Giant Three (6:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Cliff Brown, Ryan Young, School Police, Pillow Queens
CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC Rocks (6:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB The Mother Truckers (6:30), Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, Chili Cold Blood (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi, Miles Davis Tribute w/ Jeff Lofton (6:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Freddie Steady V
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)





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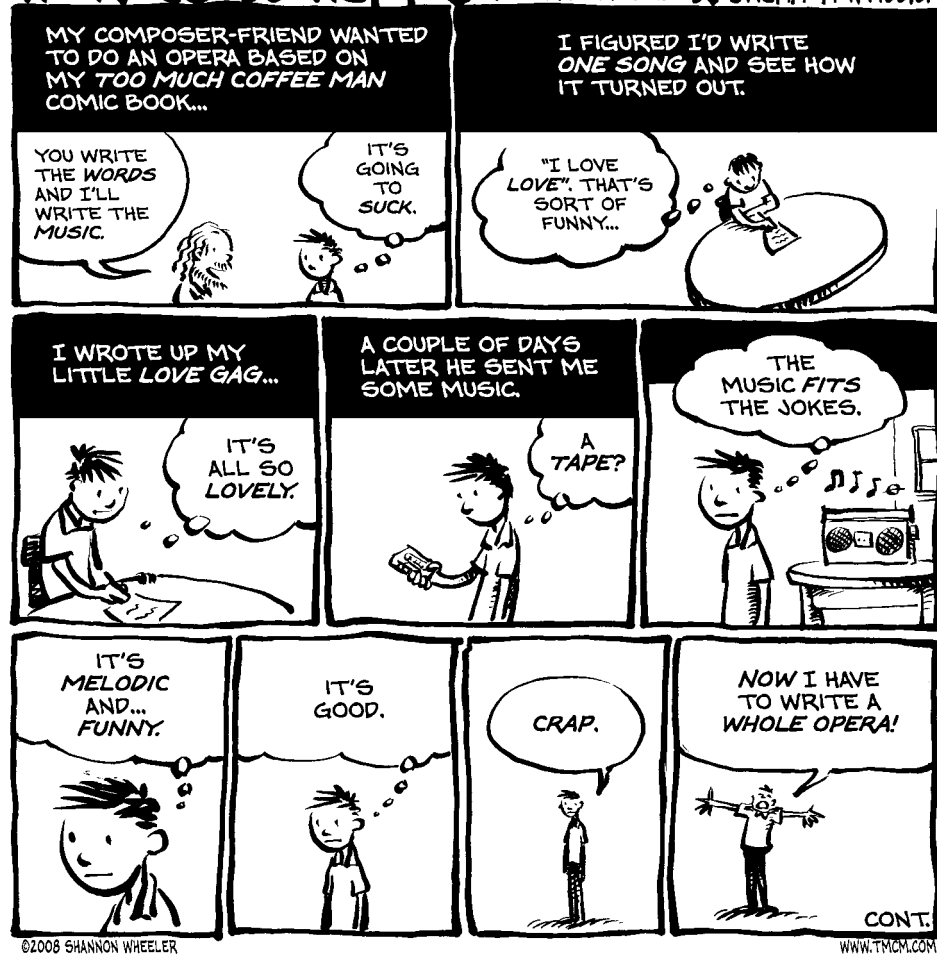
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131

COMICS

How to Be Happy (OPERA ORIGIN) by Shannon Wheeler



TROUBLETOWN

A McCLIP-OUT IRAQ GUIDE

BY LLOYD DANGLE



SO, IN CASE YOU HAVE A GRAMPA RUNNING FOR OFFICE, HERE'S A HANDY GUIDE TO WHO'S ON WHICH SIDE OF THE 1300-YEAR-OLD RELIGIOUS SCISM!



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

Panama hats are not from Panama at all. They originated in Ecuador but were made popular by workers building the Panama Canal.

NASA has detected large amounts of sodium chloride in lower levels of Mars' terrain, suggesting it once had oceans, or at the very least it tastes salty.

In 1996, a man claiming to have a bomb held a radio station manager hostage in Wanganui, New Zealand. He demanded to hear "Rainbow Connection," sung by Kermit the Frog. The bomb was found to be fake, and the man was charged with kidnapping.

There are 30,000 restaurants in Beijing, not including street vendors.

Winnie the Pooh's real name is Edward.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



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325 Clothing
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340 Free Stuff
345 Furniture
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Estate Sales
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Accessories
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370 Recreational
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Entertainment
380 Tools
385 Trades
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400 SERVICES

410 Business
415 Computers
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510 Activities
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Experience required.
Clean, friendly, spacious environment. Must be well rounded and dependable.

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EMPLOYMENT
Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's Austin Chronicle. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

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GET PAID FOR CARING

We need Support Home Living staff to work various part time hours/week working with cognitive challenged clients in their homes in Austin and surrounding areas. \$9/hr. Flexible hrs.

Call 1-800-867-0047 for
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78723;

fax resume to 512-338-1555;
email resume
dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com. EOE

ALL POSITIONS Current Full and Part Time Positions available at Barton Creek Resort & Spa

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: http://www.bartoncreek.com Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

CASHIERS Quality Seafood needs PT/FT cashiers with flexible hours. Apply within. 5621 Airport Blvd.

COOK Cain & Abel's is currently taking applications for cooks, waitstaff, and bussers. Please apply in person at 2313 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78722

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CASHIERS Quality Seafood needs PT/FT cashiers with flexible hours. Apply within. 5621 Airport Blvd.

COOK Dirty Martin's Hamburgers is now hiring an experienced line cook. Excellent references req. Apply in person, M-F, 3-5PM. 2808 Guadalupe.

COOK Cain & Abel's is currently taking applications for cooks, waitstaff, and bussers. Please apply in person at 2313 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78722

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Quality Seafood is hiring for drivers. Shifts from 7am-2pm. Flex schedule M-F 30+ per week. Call 452-3820.

GRAVEYARD COOKS Star Seeds is now hiring Graveyard Cooks and dishwashers. Please apply at 3101 North I35 (next to the Days Inn Hotel).

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PREP/LINE COOKS Quality Seafood needs exp. line cooks for evening positions 3-10 M-SA flex. Apply within. 5621 Airport Blvd.

SCREENPRINTER Aztec Promotional Group is now hiring Screen Printers, Screen Techs., & for the Stock Room. We are willing to train applicants with some knowledge of screenprinting. Please email

recruitment@aztecworld.com or apply in person at 2815 Manor Rd.

SPRING/SUMMER STAFF

Westwood Country Club is accepting applications for Spring/Summer poolside Café counter attendants.

Starting rate is \$9.00 hourly plus free shift meals. Job starts part-time weekends April through mid-May, then going Full-time end of May through end of August. Must be clean cut, personable and have reliable transportation and able to work summer Holidays i.e. July 4th, Labor Day, etc.

Applications may be downloaded at westwoodcountryclub.com and returned in person to 3808 West 35th Street ask for Chris or Tony

E.O.E

WAITSTAFF Full or PT - experienced, dependable. Dirty Martin's Hamburgers. Apply in person, M-F, 3-5. 2808 Guadalupe St.

EMPLOYMENT Hire employees who are as smart as you are! Advertise your positions in the Austin Chronicle's Help Wanted section. Call 512-454-5765 for more info.

WESTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
Accepting applications for FT Server. Must have previous full menu and banquet service experience be clean cut and professional in appearance and demeanor. Candidates **MUST** be available to work split shifts, weekends and some Holidays.

Above average hourly rate beginning at \$12 (DOE). Other benefits include paid health insurance, shift meals, free parking, vacation and Holiday pay.

Applications may be downloaded at: westwoodcountryclub.com and returned in person at 3808 West 35th Street, Tuesday through Friday, 10am - 5pm. Ask for Tony or Barbara

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145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

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MANAGEMENT LifeSize Communications, Inc., in Austin, TX is recruiting for a Sr. Product Manager. Submit resumes referencing Sr. Product Manager and job code BG0803 to HR, LifeSize Communications, Inc., 901 S. Mopac, Bldg. 3, Suite 300, Austin, TX 78746. LifeSize is an EOE.

CONSULTANT Ascendant Technology, Austin, TX. Req.: BS or for. equiv. Comp Sci/Engg/Math or rel. + 2 yrs exp w/software dvlpmnt. Resume only, attn.: C. Jones (File #061017) 10215 161st Pl. NE, Redmond, WA 98052.

160 RESEARCH STUDY

DONOR PROGRAM SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

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- Difficulty in concentration
- Decrease in motivation

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Can tear families apart.

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
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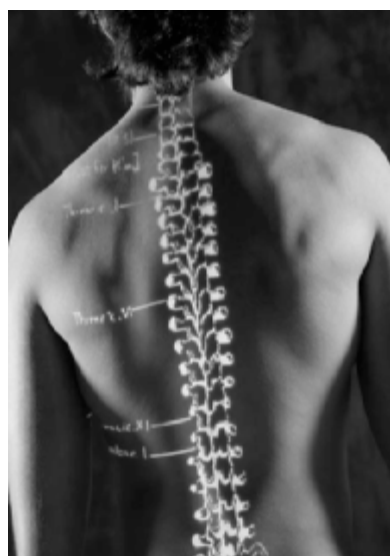
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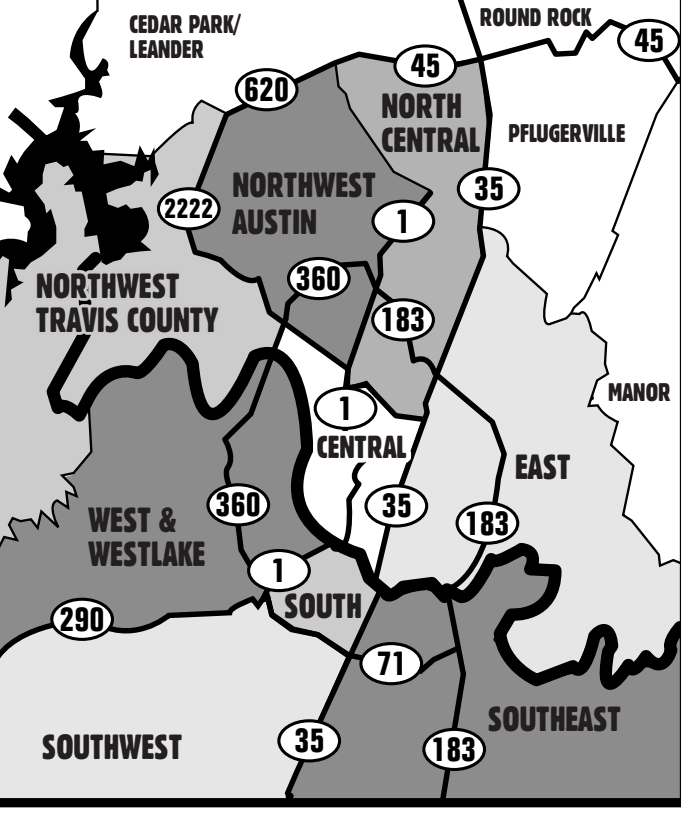
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CENTRAL 3744 D Valley View Rd Cozy condo at a great price in Area 6! 1 bdr, 1 ba, 563 sq ft. Recent updates incl. tile & carpet. Fridge, w&d convey. Minutes to downtown. Cute condo for just 102K! Tarek Realty World 512-482-9992 tarek@tarekmorshed.com

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OPEN HOUSE SUN 2-4PM

Bouldin Beauty!

1806 Eva St. Fantastic 2 story in popular Bouldin neighborhood. 3/2 1/2 baths plus study. Tree top master has vaulted ceilings, large covered balcony and jetted tub. Kitchen has granite counters, glass front cabinets and looks out onto large deck and well landscaped yard. Hardwoods on first floor. Walk to South Congress to eat and shop. **\$607,000**. Contact **Kris Hyatt**, Eva Street Properties **(512) 762-8235**.




NORTHWEST 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths off Far West & MoPac. HOA pays gas, cable w/HBO, water, hot water, insurance, & more. Seriously low bills & taxes! near UT shuttle & city bus. Pool. Only \$143,700 CondoJoe@re-al.com or 203-4100 to see it.

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SOUTH 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths true townhome w/2 car garage only \$139,700!!! 4 miles to downtown & UT. Silstone counters, stained concrete floors, loft could actually be 4th bedroom. Pool & tennis out front door. Near UT & city buses. CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer or 203-4100 to see it.

WEBSITE Check out more great ads online! austinchronicle.com/classifieds



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2424 Hartford, Unit A, \$699,900, 2800sf, 3 beds, 2.5 baths, 2 dining, 3 living, 3 patios, 1 garage, 1 carport, elevator, 700sf +/- unfinished attic space. Beautifully appointed condominium unit in Pemberton Heights! Luxurious finish-out with Brazilian cherry wood floors, granite countertops and Travertine tile in all baths! Private back yard and outdoor kitchen! 2 units available!




Zip Realty presents an **OPEN HOUSE** at BartonPlace this **Saturday, April 19**. Take advantage of the last days of PRE-CONSTRUCTION pricing. While enjoying catering from Jave. Austin-flavored door prizes too! **Juanita Thornton, REALTOR. 947-4366**



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Location is the **BEST GREEN FEATURE**. Tree House Views, walk or bike to S. Austin's eclectic restaurant scene, or stroll for a swim in Barton Springs Natural Pool. Building is approx 4200 sq ft divided into 3 units of various sizes. Large trees provide privacy on the 14767+ sq ft lot. Many options for the future... www.seeaustinhomes.com/6274 offered at \$1,295,000

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GREEN CONSTRUCTION w/ hill country views & modern open interior. ICF Technology with 24 gauge steel frame. 3/3/2 home plus 1200 sq ft play room sits on 3.81 acres. Stunning huge covered porches create an oasis. Call for further green details & an appointment to view this one-of-a-kind gem. \$720K (extra lot available) www.seeaustinhomes.com/7177

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1604 WALNUT
3 bed/2.5 bath new construction just 5 minutes from UT and 10 minutes from downtown. Plus a 1 bed/1 bath garage apartment perfect for rental income or home office. Flex room could be 2nd living area or formal dining. 2 story great room w/fireplace that is filled with natural sunlight; stained concrete floors; kitchen has maple cabinets, granite counters and stainless appliances.

MARTY HERZOG, 426-8583



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SOUTH

GREEN CONSTRUCTION

Hill country views & modern open interior. ICF Technology with 24 gauge steel frame 3/ 3/2 home plus 1200 sq ft play room sits on 3.81 acres, stunning huge covered porches create and Oasis, call for futher green details & an appointment to view this one of a kind gem.\$720K (extra lot available)

Agent Wendy 512-916-0018
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SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 3-Story modern loft style, wood floors, granite, garages, \$129,900.

DEADLINE A reminder that the deadline for placing a classified line ad is Tuesday, noon. Call 512-454-5765 for more information.

SOUTH

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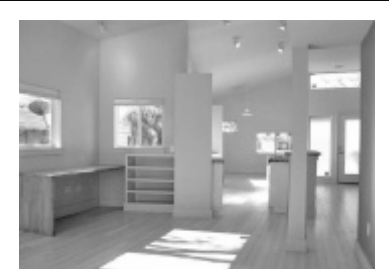

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GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 8th day of April, 2008.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
AUSTIN CHRONICLE**

TO: SARAH SWINNEY Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being May 5, 2008, a default judgment may be taken against you.

CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-08-003096, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW 1
POLLOK V SWINNEY Filed

IN COUNTY COURT AT LAW 1 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on March 25, 2008.
STYLED: POLLOK V SWINNEY
NATURE OF SUIT: PROMISSORY NOTE
Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on March 25, 2008. County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ Chasity Castaneda
Plaintiff Attorney: ROBERT P NUNIS
801 WEST AVE STE 200
AUSTIN, TX 78701

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF HILBERTO MARIO SANCHEZ,** Deceased, No. 88487 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

MARY MARGARET SANCHEZ and all alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 8TH day of April, 2008, a Combined Application for Agreed Independent Administration and Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said

ALBERTO MARIO SANCHEZ, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 8th day of April, 2008.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH G CASTILLO,** Deceased, No. 88474 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

KARL G JOHNSON, JR alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 7TH day of APRIL, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ELIZABETH G CASTILLO, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 7th day of April, 2008.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-07-004069** TO: UNKNOWN OWNERS OF LOT 1, BLOCK 2, SMITH & ABRAHAMSON SUBDIVISION Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the MAY 12, 2008, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on FEBRUARY 5, 2008, a default judgment may be taken against you.

Said suit being number D-1-GN-07-004069, in which 52nd and Avenue F Church of Christ Plaintiff(s), and The Unknown Owners of Lot 1, Block 2 Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:
BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD ON TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO WRITE: Lot 1, Block 2, SMITH & ABRAHAMSON SUBDIVISION, according to the map or plat

thereof, recorded in Volume 4, Page 252, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas.
ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 24, 2008.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Iris Laryea, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
DOY FREITAG
15901 CENTRAL COMMERCE DRIVE
SUITE 501
PFLUGERVILLE, TX 78660
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)252-1515
FAX: (512)252-1517

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-08-000862 TO: JUAN PABLO PEREZ and to all who may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 250TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on FEBRUARY 8, 2008, and said suit being number D-1-FM-08-000862 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF ANGELICA PEREZ and JUAN PABLO PEREZ, ET AL, and IN the Interest of MARIANA JASMINE PEREZ, CHILD". The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessor of the parties, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 14, 2008.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/JON SANDERS, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
ANGELICA PEREZ PEREZ
1301 B-DOBIE DRIVE
AUSTIN, TX 78753

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ERNA I ECKERT, Deceased, No. 88468 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

WANDA ECKERT SANDERSON alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 4TH day of APRIL 2008, an Application to Declare Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ERNA I ECKERT, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard

and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 4th day of April, 2008.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**D-1-GV-06-001680
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-06-001680, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Douglas B. Scott, Stephen M. Bolton and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,500.58** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 9, 2007.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 30127, Highland Lake Estates, Section 30, Plat No. 68/22, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 7183, Page 859 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,500.58** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**D-1-GV-06-001681
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
Y VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-06-001681, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County

Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hosnka District are plaintiffs, and County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Lorne F. Barker, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lorne F. Barker are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,656.36** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 5, 2007.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 21185, Highland Lake Estates, Section 21, Plat No. 55/59 as described in Volume 7401, Page 91 of the deed record s of Travis County, Texas .

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,656.36** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**D-1-GV-07-001569
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001569, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Marion E. Keely, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Marion E. Keely and Geraldine L. Keely are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,275.20** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 31, 2008.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16, Block H, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2 as described in Volume 6811, Page 1103 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,275.20** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.
BRUCE ELFANT,

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY**
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-001409
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-001409, wherein Del Valle Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 are plaintiffs, and Bob Mitchell, If alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Bob Mitchell, Samuel A. Harrell (In Rem Only), If alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lorne F. Barker are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,929.37** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 3, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 14A, Amended Plat of Lots 14 and 15, Cardinal Hills, Unit 6, Plat No. 99/43 as described in Volume 12999, Page 726 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$213,586.14** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-204418
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-204418, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and George Christ and General Electric Credit Corporation (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,680.51** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 5, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10267, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly de-

**GV-003096
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-003096, wherein City of Lakeway, Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and PH.L.A., Inc. aka PH.L.A., Inc., Matrix Capital Bank, FSB (In Rem Only), Texas Employment Commission nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only) and The United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$213,586.14** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 22, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 14A, Amended Plat of Lots 14 and 15, Cardinal Hills, Unit 6, Plat No. 99/43 as described in Volume 12999, Page 726 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$213,586.14** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-204418
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-204418, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and George Christ and General Electric Credit Corporation (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,680.51** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 5, 2003.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10267, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly de-



The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

EVERY DOG GETS ONE BITE?

I'm a first-time dog owner. My friend recently told me that I would have to pay for all damages my dog causes if he ever bites someone. Is this right?

It depends. Unlike some states, Texas does not have a "dog bite statute" that always makes an owner legally responsible for damages caused by their dogs' bites. Nevertheless, there are situations when a dog owner will be responsible for damages caused by a dog bite.

As a general rule, under Texas law, an owner will not be responsible for damages the dog causes unless the dog is dangerous and the owner knows of the dog's dangerous tendencies. Texas law defines "dangerous dogs" as those that commit unprovoked acts outside of their normal enclosure that would cause a reasonable person to believe that the dog could attack and cause bodily injury again. Previous bites, attacks, or other displays of vicious tendencies are the most common ways that an owner should know their dog is dangerous. The owner of a dangerous dog must take reasonable steps to protect others from the dog.

From a practical standpoint, this means that whether or not you would be legally responsible for your dog depends on the dog. If your dog were so vicious that it made a rabid rottweiler look like the perfect family pet, you would almost certainly be liable for any damages caused by its bites (even the first bite). Alternatively, if your dog is the veritable Lassie – friendly and with no history of hostile or aggressive behavior – you may not be responsible the first time it bites someone, because you had no reason to know it was dangerous. But at that point, if you failed to take reasonable steps to protect others, you could be responsible for any future bites, because the first bite put you on notice that your dog has vicious tendencies.

There are other circumstances when a dog owner can be legally liable for a dog bite – such as the owner's negligence or failure to comply with a leash law – even if it's the dog's first bite. Read next week's "Common Law" column for more information on dog owner liability.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,680.51** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-300648 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-300648, wherein Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Texas County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Diane Sanchez, Patricia Sanchez and Litchfield Financial Corporation (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,990.49** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 5, 2007.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 39, Lago Ranchos, Section 1, Plat No. 49/27 as described in document number 2000031468 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,990.49** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-401877 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of

Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-401877, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Mary J. Colville are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,031.30** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 29, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 11, Block H, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 11219, Page 634 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,031.30** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-403890 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-403890, wherein Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Point Construction, Inc., Nunn Electric Supply Corporation (In Rem Only), Comp-troller of Public Accounts (In Rem Only), Texas Employment Commission nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only), Triple S. Petroleum Company (In Rem Only), Cash Master (In Rem Only) and Holt Texas, Ltd. Dba Holt Cat (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,009.91** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 7, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3138, Bar-K Ranches, Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in document number 2001059161 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,009.91** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

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BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-503701, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jack C. Mathis and Florence T. Mathis are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,848.31** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 11, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10261, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25 as described in Volume 10678, Page 225 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

GV-403901 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-403901, wherein Del Valle Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Richard S. Merrill, Jr., Homecraft East Austin, Inc. (In Rem Only), if active and if inactive the unknown officers, directors, shareholders and owners of Homecraft East Austin, Inc. and Del Valle Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12, Travis County Hospital District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$4,920.59** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 4, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

.13 of an acre out of the Joseph Duty Sr. 16 as described in Volume 9974, Page 766, Volume 12036, Page 943 and document number 2003127457 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,920.59** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

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GV-503701 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-503701, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jack C. Mathis and Florence T. Mathis are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,848.31** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 11, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10261, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25 as described in Volume 10678, Page 225 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,848.31** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

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GV-504409 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-504409, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Robert Lorraine and Linda K. Lorraine are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,238.44** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 7, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 18, Block H, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 10682, Page 656 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,238.44** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th

day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

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IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

**ESTATE OF AMANDA
ELIZABETH SCHELLER,
DECEASED**

NO. 87,665 NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Amanda Elizabeth Scheller, Deceased, were issued on March 25, 2008, in Docket No. 87665, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: Richard Scheller.

The residence of the said Richard Scheller is in Travis County, Texas:

Mr. Richard Scheller
2912 Wavcrest Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78728

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 1st day of April, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

BY: /s/ WILLIAM R. PEMBERTON

TEXAS BAR I.D. NO. 15735500

WILLIAM R. PEMBERTON, PC.

P.O. BOX 1112

CROCKETT, TEXAS 75835

936-544-4111

936-544-5023 (FAX)

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1993 FORD

1FALP5242PG188016

1989 NISSAN

JN1HS34P1KW013395

1995 DODGE

1B3ES47C3SD223816

AUCTION April 25, 2008 @ 6:00 A.M.

ADVANCED TOWING & RECOVERY

1810 BENCH MARK DR

AUSTIN, TX 78728

(512) 402-0024

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1. 2007 JEEP

1JBHS582X7C699316

2. 1988 LINCOLN

1LNBMM93E9JY855254

3. 1989 FORD F150

1FTEX15N8KKA85916

4. 1997 FORD

1FALP13P6VW020374

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s), the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed.

Garagekeeper:

A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC

2963 MANOR ROAD

AUSTIN, TX 78722

(512)670-7578

1999 Other/Other, B640567

LA VIN#
1HTSCAAMSXH688194

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **NO THROUGH TRUCKS PROHIBITION ON CAMP CRAFT ROAD IN PRECINCT THREE.**

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing.

Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy land-lord's lien. Sale is **10:00 am, May 13, 2008 at 824 Wagon Trail Austin, TX.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: CYNTHIA SMITH: TV, Household Items; SIGNATURE GROUP: Landscape tools, paint, tile; JAUNELE DEDE-AUX: Furniture; JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON: Furniture, Misc boxes; DONNA ROBINSON: Clothes, Dolly, Jacks, Weedeater; GEORGETTE GREENWOOD KLIENPETER: Washer, Dryer, Mattress, Furniture, toys; JAMES RODRIGUEZ: Furniture, Stove, TV, Misc household items; GERALD FULLER: Clothes, Misc Boxes; JIMMY BROWN: Misc Boxes, Clothes; GERALD FULLER: Car Parts, Misc Boxes; ASHLEY COLL: Sofa, Misc. Boxes; GERALD FULLER: Clothes, Furniture, Mattress, Cooler. Contact CSA Management at (512) 453-6566 Ext 219 for more information.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE ABI Storage, pursuant to Ch. 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of a public sale. On **April 26, 2008**, ABI Storage located at 7320 E. Ben White Austin, TX 78741 will conduct a sale. Delinquent rental spaces will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at **12 p.m.** on the premises. The public is invited to attend. Total of 6 rental spaces containing misc. items, clothing, furniture, household items, electronics, appliances, tools, will be sold to satisfy Landlord Liens. All items will be sold "as is" to the highest bidder. **NO CASH AND CREDIT CARDS NO CHECKS.** All items are subject to prior redemption. Tenants included in this sale are: B43 Victor Carrillo, C67 Aracely Rodriguez, D12 Wilford Alexander, D61 Efrain Reyes, D64 Julie Villareal, D67 Michael Wyatt -Auctioneer: Melissa Rackel #10846.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, Antler Mini Storage located at 11405 Thomas Sinclair Blvd., Austin, TX 78728 will hold a Public Auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien on Sat. April 26, 2008. Sale will begin at 10:00am. Property sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for cleanup required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from the sale. Property being sold includes the contents in units of the following tenants: Ben G. Strickland-stools, TV stand, chest, microwave car, lamp, pans, crock pot, misc. Chris W. VanderPlaat-plants, infant car seat, portable bed, baby changing station, ornaments. Christopher J. Calvisi-Kenmore washer, dryer, futon, pad w/cover, ornaments, TV, finishing sander. Pam G. Dugherly-mirror, cabinet, lg. pictures, birdcage, sml. chairs, Schwin bikes, side table, girl's bicycle, dartboard, exercise ball. Kevin Shuler-smoker, chairs, head & foot board, ladder, Murray edger, couch, misc. tools, skis, stools, TV, table saw, air compressor. Pamela R Dudley-Whirlpool refrigerator, dryer, chairs, sled, cradle, toys, misc. decorations, band saw, trunk, hanging quilt racks, bench saw, fan. Mary Jo Abrams, 2 units-couch, love-seat, book shelves, dresser, coolers, mini refrigerator, standing clock, misc. boxes, clothing, fan, rolling tool box, truck tool box, some tools, misc. decorations, bicycles,

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, Antler Mini Storage located at 11405 Thomas Sinclair Blvd., Austin, TX 78728 will hold a Public Auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien on Sat. April 26, 2008. Sale will begin at 10:00am. Property sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for cleanup required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from the sale. Property being sold includes the contents in units of the following tenants: Ben G. Strickland-stools, TV stand, chest, microwave car, lamp, pans, crock pot, misc. Chris W. VanderPlaat-plants, infant car seat, portable bed, baby changing station, ornaments. Christopher J. Calvisi-Kenmore washer, dryer, futon, pad w/cover, ornaments, TV, finishing sander. Pam G. Dugherly-mirror, cabinet, lg. pictures, birdcage, sml. chairs, Schwin bikes, side table, girl's bicycle, dartboard, exercise ball. Kevin Shuler-smoker, chairs, head & foot board, ladder, Murray edger, couch, misc. tools, skis, stools, TV, table saw, air compressor. Pamela R Dudley-Whirlpool refrigerator, dryer, chairs, sled, cradle, toys, misc. decorations, band saw, trunk, hanging quilt racks, bench saw, fan. Mary Jo Abrams, 2 units-couch, love-seat, book shelves, dresser, coolers, mini refrigerator, standing clock, misc. boxes, clothing, fan, rolling tool box, truck tool box, some tools, misc. decorations, bicycles,

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, Antler Mini Storage located at 11405 Thomas Sinclair Blvd., Austin, TX 78728 will hold a Public Auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien on Sat. April 26, 2008. Sale will begin at 10:00am. Property sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for cleanup required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from the sale. Property being sold includes the contents in units of the following tenants: Ben G. Strickland-stools, TV stand, chest, microwave car, lamp, pans, crock pot, misc. Chris W. VanderPlaat-plants, infant car seat, portable bed, baby changing station, ornaments. Christopher J. Calvisi-Kenmore washer, dryer, futon, pad w/cover, ornaments, TV, finishing sander. Pam G. Dugherly-mirror, cabinet, lg. pictures, birdcage, sml. chairs, Schwin bikes, side table, girl's bicycle, dartboard, exercise ball. Kevin Shuler-smoker, chairs, head & foot board, ladder, Murray edger, couch, misc. tools, skis, stools, TV, table saw, air compressor. Pamela R Dudley-Whirlpool refrigerator, dryer, chairs, sled, cradle, toys, misc. decorations, band saw, trunk, hanging quilt racks, bench saw, fan. Mary Jo Abrams, 2 units-couch, love-seat, book shelves, dresser, coolers, mini refrigerator, standing clock, misc. boxes, clothing, fan, rolling tool box, truck tool box, some tools, misc. decorations, bicycles,

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas

ladder, tarp, dolly, aquarium. Keshia I. Jones-stroller, crib, suitcase, portable bed, curtains, side table, Christmas tree. Eric N Danner-canoes, table top, file cabinets, bicycles, misc. boxes, lg. dog carrier. Rachel Lynn Keesey-small chest, couch, chairs, washer, dryer, futon, pad w/ cover, TV, speakers, picture frames, dresser, misc. boxes. Peggy a Woods-rocking chair, misc. boxes, bags, stuffed animals, toys. For more information: 512-246-6217 Antler Mint Storage.

Col. David Montgomery, Auctioneer, license #15234

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods herein after described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following address to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only. **Stor Self Storage 2508 W. Pecan St. Plugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000, May 5, 2008 12:00 pm.** Horace Curtis, #318, 10x10 unit. Rafael Delarosa , #560, 10x20 unit, Kevin Campbell, #325, 10x10 unit.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on **May 5, 2008 beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT located at 10025 Manchaca Road Austin, Texas.** This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the completion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-It #753
10025 Manchaca Rd
Austin, Tx 78748
512-292-1760
Janice Ramirez - Fishing Poles, Suitcases, Records, Tapes, Christmas Statues, Patio Chairs, Garden Tools.
Albert Munoz - Bookcase, Dresser, Desk, Sofa, TV, CD's, Printer.
Carolyn Rodriguez - Bed Frame, Fishing Poles, Refrigerator, Tackle Box, Toys, Tools, Generator, Air Conditioner.

Christopher Brown - File Cabinet, Ladder, Tool Boxes, Welder.
Leela Kendrick Tondre - Box spring and Mattress, Boxes, Tubs.

U-Store-It #751
610 E. Stassney Lane
Austin, TX 78745
512-441-8300
John Beaty - Desk, Totes
Erik Orr - File Cabinet, Chairs, Rug, Speakers, Table, Totes, Bamboo Curtains, Pet Kennel, Pet Taxi

Nicholas Shaw - Baby Crib, Boxes, Dryer, Speakers, Stereo, Toys, Washing Machine, Baby Swing, Baby Bouncer, Totes, Baby Bath Tub.
Sergio Guerrero - Books, Chairs, Dresser, Pictures, Speakers, Tables, Hutch, Hun Rack, Totes
Dannon Basaldua - Bags, Bed frame, Mattress, Box Spring, Desk, Mirror, Pictures, Plastic Drawers.
Stephen Torrez - Bed Frame,

Boxes, Table, TV, Printer
Clarence Jackson - Boxes, Fan, Ladder, Lamp, Speakers, TV, Weight Bench, Weights, Household Electronics
Jesse Hernandez - Bed Frame, Headboard, Desk, Ladder, Stereo, TV, Stroller, Car Seat, Hose and Reel, Punching Bag.
Rachel Blocker - Bags, Bicycle, Boxes, Chairs, Clothing, Shelf, Table, TV's, Freezer, Luggage
U-Store-It #748
12006 RR 620 N
Austin, Tx. 78745
512-336-5333
Richard Guthrie - Bicycle, Chairs, Clothing, Ladder, Dresser
David Pritchard - Dresser, Refrigerator, Car-seats, Keyboard, Computer Desk, Boxes, Pictures and Frames.
AUCTIONEER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
State of Texas
County of Travis
Cause: CC0610833
By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the County Court 2 of DALLAS County, Texas, February 29, 2008, in cause numbered CC0610833, styled ADESA AUSTIN versus ADEBOLA JOHNSON D/B/A 512 AUTO SALES on a judgment rendered against ADEBOLA JOHNSON D/B/A 512 AUTO SALES; I did on April 01, 2008, at 1:45 PM, levy upon as the property of ADEBOLA JOHNSON D/B/A 512 AUTO SALES the following described real property:
LOT 4 BLK A SOUTHERN OAKS SEC 7 MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS 5214 TAHOE TRL AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS 78745 of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas.

On May 06, 2008, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 AM, at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of ADEBOLA JOHNSON D/B/A 512 AUTO SALES in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, April 01, 2008.
Bruce Effant,
Constable Precinct 5
Travis County, Texas
/s/ Joe Rosser, Deputy
Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF E. EUGENE CRUMP Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of E. Eugene Crump, Deceased, were issued on April 15, 2008, in Cause No. 88437, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, James Eldon Crump. All persons hav-

ing claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this the 15th day of April, 2008.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JUDY MATTA, DECEASED NOTICE is given that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of JUDY MATTA, DECEASED, were granted to ROBERT HOLDEN on April 10, 2008, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 88,403.

All persons having claims against said estate must present same within the time prescribed by law, and before said estate is closed, in care of ATTORNEY RICHARD W. CHOTE, 3305 Northland Drive #500, Austin, Texas 78731.

ROBERT HOLDEN
Independent Executor
Estate of JUDY MATTA, DECEASED
By: RICHARD W. CHOTE
Attorney at Law

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARK T. RITTER, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 88348, styled Estate of Mark T. Ritter, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on April 3, 2008, to Michael L. Cook. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of his attorneys at the following address:

c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
A Professional Corporation
Attn: Julie Frey
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 3rd day of April, 2008.
GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY,
A Professional Corporation
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
512.480.5776 Telephone
512.480.5876 Fax
By: /s/ Julie Frey
State Bar ID No.: 00792283
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF SARAH L. SMITH, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Letters of Temporary Administration were issued on January 8, 2008, appointing Don E. Walden as Temporary Administrator in the estate of Sarah L. Smith, Deceased, in Cause No. 87,357 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas.

Claims may be presented to the Temporary Administrator at the following address:
Don E. Walden, Temporary Administrator, Estate of Sarah L. Smith, Deceased
7200 North Mopac, Suite 300
Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this 9th day of April, 2008.

/s/ Don E. Walden
State Bar No. 20672800
7200 North Mopac, Suite 300
Austin, Texas 78731
(512) 349-9595
(512) 795-8079 Fax
Temporary Administrator

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RENEE V. HASSING, DECEASED. No-

time hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Renee V. Hassing, Deceased, were issued on 3/4/2008 in Cause No. 87776 pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas to Frank H. Muller, Jr., as Dependent Executor. The residence of the Dependent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas. The mailing address is Estate of Renee V. Hassing, c/o Kent M. Leediker, 1104 Nueces, Suite 201, Austin, TX 78701. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Kent M. Leediker, 1104 Nueces, Suite 201, Austin, TX 78701, Attorney for the Estate.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF NORMAL SAMFORD, JR., DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Normal Samford, Jr., deceased, were issued on April 8, 2008, in Cause No. 88222 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Sandra L. Bradfute as Independent Administrator. The residence of the Independent Administrator is in Travis County, Texas. The post office address for claims is:

Estate of Normal Samford, Jr.
Gilman & Clarke, PC.
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78701-1537
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated: April 8, 2008.
Gilman & Clarke, PC.
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100
Austin, TX 78701
Attorneys for the Administrator

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM J. BORDOVSKY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William J. Bordovsky were issued to Martha S. Bordovsky, on April 8, 2008, in Cause No. 88,402, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate.

The residence of the Independent Executor is 5402 Buffalo Pass, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78745. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED April 8, 2008.
WALKER ARENSON, Attorney for Martha S. Bordovsky
512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY BORN ST.MARTIN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 88368, styled Estate of Mary Born St.Martin, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on April 8, 2008, to Donald Keith St.Martin.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of his attorneys at the following address:
c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
A Professional Corporation
Attn: Julie Frey
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 11th day of April, 2008.
GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY,
A Professional Corporation
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200

Austin, Texas 78767-0098
512.480.5776 Telephone
512.480.5876 Fax
By: /s/ Julie Frey
State Bar ID No.: 00792283
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PAUL NORMAN SECUNDA Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Paul Norman Secunda, Deceased, were issued on April 15, 2008, in Cause No. 88431, pending in

the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Judith Ann Quinn. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this the 15th day of April, 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GAIL B.

ATTAL, were issued on April 8, 2008, in Docket No. 88410, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: BASIL MICHAEL ATTAL
The residence of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Texas, and the post office address is as follows:
c/o AKINS, NOWLIN & PREWITT, L.L.P.
1516 E. Palm Valley Blvd,B-2
P.O. Box 249
Round Rock, Texas 78680-0249

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 9th day of April, 2008.
AKINS, NOWLIN & PREWITT, L.L.P.

1516 E. Palm Valley Blvd,B-2
P.O. Box 249
Round Rock, Texas 78680
(512) 244-0001
FAX: (512) 244-9733
By: /s/ Rick Akins
State Bar No. 00962200
ATTORNEYS FOR ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of Wilmenia Rector, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on February 25, 2008, in Cause No. 87,371, pending in the Probate Court, No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Pamela Jayne Edwards.

The residence of the Guardian is Austin, Travis County, Texas. She can be reached:
c/o: Martin J. Cirkiel
Attorney at Law
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 15th day of April, 2008.

Cirkiel & Associates, PC.
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
Telephone: (512) 244-6658
Facsimile: (512) 244-6014
By: /s/ Martin J. Cirkiel, Esq.
Attorney for Pamela Edwards
State Bar No.: 00783829

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Karen Lynn Vanous, were issued on March 28, 2008, in Cause No. 08-0097-CP4, pending in the County Court-at-Law, No. Four, Williamson County, Texas, to: Jana Vanous.
The residence of the Administrator is Taylor, Travis County, Texas. She can be reached:

c/o: Martin J. Cirkiel
Attorney at Law
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 15th day of April, 2008.
Cirkiel & Associates, PC.
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
Telephone: (512) 244-6658
Facsimile: (512) 244-6014
By: /s/ Martin J. Cirkiel, Esq.
Attorney for Jana Vanous
State Bar No.: 00783829

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On April 8, 2008, Austin Trust Company was issued original letters testamentary for the Estate of Carolyn S. Walls, Deceased, in Cause 88,313 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the executor is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 808, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.
Austin Trust Company
Independent Executor of the Estate of Carolyn S. Walls

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 294 of the Texas Probate Code that original letters testamentary for the ESTATE OF JESSE E. TORRES, deceased, were issued on April 10, 2008, in Cause Number 88,380, ESTATE OF JESSE E. TORRES, deceased, pending in Probate Court Number One Sitting in Matters Probate, Travis County, Texas, to CHRISTINE E. TORRES, Independent Executor. The address is: CHRISTINE E. TORRES, Independent Executor, c/o
Rob V. Robertson, Attorney at Law, 13740 Research Blvd., Suite J5, Austin, Texas 78750-1832. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED: April 11, 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Estate of June D. Stepka, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on February 25, 2008, in Cause No. 87,371, pending in the Probate Court, No. One, Travis County, Texas, to: Kerry Tolan.

The residence of the Guardian is Taylor, Travis County, Texas. He can be reached:
c/o: Martin J. Cirkiel
Attorney at Law
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 15th day of April, 2008.
Cirkiel & Associates, PC.
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78664
Telephone: (512) 244-6658
Facsimile: (512) 244-6014
By: /s/ Martin J. Cirkiel, Esq.
Attorney for Kerry Tolan
State Bar No.: 00783829

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On April 11, 2008, Claude E. Ducloux qualified as Independent Administrator without bond of the Estate of Elspeth D. Rostow, Deceased, in Cause No. 88,053 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 808, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.
Claude E. Ducloux, Independent Administrator of the Estate of Elspeth D. Rostow

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lorraine H. Ciotola, Deceased, were issued on April 8, 2008, in Cause No. 88296, pending in the Probate Court Number 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Anita Hunter.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Anita Hunter, representative, Estate of Lorraine H. Ciotola, Deceased
c/o Law Offices of Brooke Hardie
702 Rio Grande St.
Austin, Texas 78701
DATED the 9th day of April, 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOSEPHINE ELVA CLARK, Deceased, were issued on April 10, 2008, under Cause No. 88414, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to JOYCE L. COX and NANCY G. STRAMLER.
The post office address is: Representative, Estate of JOSEPHINE ELVA CLARK, Deceased
c/o Joyce Cox and Nancy Stramler
4121 Honeycomb Rock Cir.
Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 10th day of April, 2008.
/s/ Jeanette K. Schaefer,
Attorney at Law
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Anneliese F. Hemphill, Deceased, were issued to Joann Hemphill Meyer on April 8, 2008, in Cause No. 88329, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. The residence of the Independent Executor is Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas. All claims against this Estate should be addressed to:
Joann Hemphill Meyer, Independent Executor of the Estate of Anneliese F. Hemphill, Deceased
c/o Jason Roy Flaherty, Esq.
Winstead PC
401 Congress Ave., Ste 2100
Austin, Texas 78701
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 9th day of April, 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration of the Estate of Richard Harvey Bell, Deceased, were issued on April 8, 2008 in Cause No. 88,009, pending in Travis County Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas to Noble Boswell, Independent Administrator. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Richard Thormann, Attorney at Law, 805 West 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701 within the time prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ray Grunt, Deceased, were issued on March 20, 2008 in Docket No. 08-0119-CP4, pending in the County Court at Law Number Four of Williamson County, Texas, to Verna Dana Grunt.

Claims may be addressed in care of the Executor's attorney, as follows:
Verna Dana Grunt, Independent Executor
c/o Jennifer J. Mattingly

Attorney at Law
11782 Jollyville Rd.
Austin, Texas 78759
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 31st day of March, 2008.
Jennifer J. Mattingly
11782 Jollyville Rd.
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 219-4090
Attorney for the Executor

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
1.Collection and Transportation of Recyclable Materials, P080186-OJ
Opens: April 28, 2008 @ 3:00 p.m.
2.Dental Coverage for Travis County Employees, P080193-OJ
Opens: April 28, 2008, @ 10:00 a.m.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proposal shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

TRAVIS COUNTY
SURPLUS PROPERTY
MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008; 10:00 AM
TRAVIS COUNTY
WAREHOUSE
7811 BURLESON-MANOR ROAD, MANOR, TEXAS

*A VARIETY OF VEHICLES, OFFICE SUPPLIES, FURNITURE, CLOTHING, LAWN EQUIPMENT, APPLIANCES, JEWELRY, COMPUTER SOFTWARE & ACCESSORIES AND MANY OTHER VARIOUS ITEMS MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDS.
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BASS Monument to No One seeks bassist for rock. Influences: Sunny Day, Cave In, Hum, Pumpkins, Gigs booked. http://www.myspace.com/monumenttonoone

BASS B4 the Storm is looking to add a Strong Rhythm Section to complete its line-up. www.myspace.com/b4thestormband

BRASS Full Latin band seeks trumpet. mspace.com/eltule

BRASS Trumpet wanted (pro,semi-pro,good amateur); part time 60s70s80s cover band;2 vocalists + bass + drums + guitar + keys/sax johnwbode@austingc.com

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Comedy is hard. Not everyone can be Moe, Larry, Curly ... or even Shemp. Some people are just born without a funny bone. It's not a completely debilitating handicap. Look at how well Deadeye Dick Cheney has done for himself. Funny as he is, Donald Trump is never intentionally so. Marilyn Manson is a laugh riot who never even cracks a smile, and if you've ever been pulled over for doing 90 in a school zone with an open container, you probably share the suspicion that the only cops with a sense of humor are the fictional ones in *Police Academy* (which, unfortunately, cannot be said of all six sequels to *Police Academy*). Still, the world is full of humorless wretches who, like the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, set off on a journey to find their missing part. Some of them make their way into the clergy or politics or the funeral home business, and some (thankfully just a few) end up in improv troupes. It's unavoidable, really. People, on the whole, are basically good, and it takes a real asshole to jettison the dead weight that's dragging down a comedy team. It's much easier to send them out to get coffee or have them play an inanimate object like a chair or a footstool. Ever wonder how mimes got started? "Just shut the fuck up, Marcel, and go stand behind that imaginary glass wall." Watching a mime is always an uncomfortable situation, but watching unfunny improv can be every bit as unsettling. At least Cirque du Soleil's tent is roomy enough to offer a reasonably discreet exit when things get too creepy, but most improv theatres aren't big enough to avoid direct, soulful eye contact with the performers. Mimes might be sad, but seeing an improv comedy troupe bomb at close range is as emotionally exhausting as watching someone strangling baby bunnies. Therefore, when it comes to improv – or rather, if it must, you should always take care to choose a troupe composed of people you're not employed by, rooming with, dating, or paying rent to. Sounds easy enough, doesn't it? Sure helps if you live someplace like Copperas Cove; otherwise there's statistical probability someone on stage works with you at Party Pig. Fuck it, you've got to roll the dice every once in a while. Why not this Saturday at ColdTowne Theatre behind the I Luv Video on Airport? Starting at 10pm comedy troupes ColdTowne and Look Cookie throw down with an hour and a half of High Larry Us improv. ColdTowne has won numerous awards including two *Chronicle* "Best of Austin" awards, so chances are you'll spend at least part of the evening convulsed ... with laughter. Don't bust a lung, though; starting at 11:30pm is the Mod Party, an all night Sixties dance party that lasts until 6am – just in time for a healthy donut breakfast at Mrs. Johnson's. Cover for the improv and the dance party clocks in at under \$16, but it's BYOB, so you know the drinks are going to be stiff.

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iris_and_jack, 35,  **#122165**

CURIOUS TO INSATIABLE

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PinkStormtrooper, 20,  **#125177**

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I am a closeted bi-sexual woman, who would like to experiment with this side. Looking to fulfil my lovers fantasy.
willfullgirl, 34, **#124987**

ENTIRELY TOO CURIOUS

I'm relatively adventurous, but looking to try things I haven't yet; shy but not... teach me something about me i didn't know. I'm an excellent student. **Slinx**, 19,  **#124957**

420 LUV

looking for friendship new to austin from dfw where you at ladies very open just be honest not a hater. **denise420**, 26, **#124597**


EARTHY CURVES

I'm looking for decent people to explore Austin with, I haven't lived here that long. I love books, movies, and music. Show me the proverbial good time? **Beiti**, 22, **#123787**

LESBIAN LOVE

I'm a petite fem girl looking to mess around with similar. Preferably around my age and no strings attached.
heybaby, 20,  **#123524**

KINKY BOOK SELLER

I'm just a kinky nerdy girl looking for some kinky nerdy sex. Can you flog me while you make me conjugate Latin verbs? If so, we should meet! **Plagosa**, 25,  **#123241**


HELP!!!!!!

We would like to add another woman to our love making, someone who is experienced would be great! Women on women would be ok as long as he can watch....interested? **GiGi69**, 40, **#125791**

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HOT AUSTIN MALE

Ben.Recently cum out.not shy! I love it.Into lotsa freaky shit,love to give and take. fiveonetwosixthreetwoeight-fourfourfour! Love to hear from you guys...lets see where this goes! call me smooches. **Benji118**, 25,  **#125768**

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Seeking straight or bi masculine, slim buddies who love to be spoiled with foot massages. If your interested in either foot massages, write me. **Male-FootSearch**, 47, **#123872**


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Couple (female: 18, male: 22) seeking a female ages 18-22 to play with the female as male watches.... We just want to try something new and spontaneous.
youngandwilling, 18,  **#125455**


NERDY SWEET COUPLE

We are looking for a woman or a man to play with us. We are shy, but adventurous and open to anything once we get to know you. **TrixieGirl**, 38,  **#125322**


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Couple seeking (clean) female for friendship&play. Must get to know first. Bisexual experience a plus. Interested in threesome and girlngirl. Want to find someone we can comfortably be around. **WakingLifeHunt**, 23,  **#125198**


SWEET & INNOCENT.....

Attractive, easy-going couple, looking for someone to be our Pornstar! Meaning a down a*% girl up for whatever comes her way! Look forward to good times! **mjo8a**, 27,  **#125133**


LIGHT IS ON

We never prevercate. She's 34 and lovely. I'm 55 and not so lovely. A W/H women would have a fun time with us. We'd respect your space and boundries. **aphroditecronus**, 34, **#125033**


SEEKING OTHER(S)

We're in our early twenties and in a serious relationship. Interested in seeing what is out there and having fun. Send a message. :). **quixoteandlolita**, 23,  **#125004**


LET US

I am 32 and bi. He is 34 and want a women to pleasure over and over.We do all things. We are open to a lot of things. **sassiepatties**, 32,  **#124910**


MRS. SEXII

Me 29 Him 26, me 130 him 250. We like to drink and have fun. We are looking 4 a female that likes to do the same. **dat1**, 29,  **#124883**

WANTING SOME FUN

Young couple seeking a third for some fun and play. This would be a first time for us but are excited and looking forward to some fun. **maryagogo**, 18,  **#124721**

SHARE OUR BIRTHDAYS

We're a couple of old hippies who don't feel or act old.Butterfly very sensual and beautiful soul.Dog is into music. Looking for bi female for all night 3-some birthday celebration. **Butterflyanddog**, 50,  **#125409**

HOT VIXEN PLAYMATE

I am a very attractive woman, tall, blonde and very sexual...Looking for a female playmate to share fun girl on girl times while my hot boyfriend watches the fun... **mitzifenmore**, 38,  **#123847**


FEMALE WANTED

Looking for a sexy woman or couple to join us. Must be ddf. **Curiouscpl**, 28,  **#123082**


BACK TO DARKNESS

Just out of a relationship, strictly vanilla. Ready to dive right back to my true calling as a Mistress. Looking for a true relationship but won't turn down casual playtime. **dracules**, 27, **#125577**


BAD KITTY

I want satisfaction...a reason to purr.I want someone to push my buttons and my limits. I enjoy light bondage, costumes, high heels, and hate to be bored. Photos after contact. **KittyCassie**, 28,  **#125358**

WUNDERWOMAN

sexy, spicy, luscious, tempting tantalizing tarnishing bliss 24/7 but mostly all night long. **bubble3bear**, 24,  **#125109**


INTOXICATING SENSUAL SADIST

Live the fantasies you never thought possible with a brutally attractive Dominatrix. I have years of playtime experience and an incredible arsenal of toys. Are you my next willing pet? **DominaShannon**, 29,  **#124643**

NEVER SAY NEVER.

Im Very out spoken,ready for a goodtime. Pretty much down with alot of things. I live to work. Get to know me and I'll tell more. Thank you. **Cre**, 29, **#124567**


MALE BODY LOVER

Looking for a "friend" not just a hook-up. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. **rockett2222**, 34,  **#124473**


BRAZEN AND INSATIABLE

I am looking for a man who does not have to be the most amazing thing in the world to look at, but has intelligence. **krystaltear**, 35, **#120584**


REWARDING DOM

Looking for a consistant submissive,not a one time experience. Would like to meet them before anything sexual obviously. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me. **TomorrowsWorse**, 23,  **#123509**


IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS

I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygurl1985**, 22,  **#119045**


PREGNANT HORNY COUPLE

M and W(pregnant) couple looking for another woman to come in and play with us. **luckysaint**, 22,  **#125839**


SEXUAL PREDATORS

Him-5'11,slim build,tatoos,piercings, very sexually open minded and up to anything.Her-5'3,full figured,tatoos, curious and open to what comes up. **sexualpredators**, 33,  **#125831**

YOUNGLONELYDISSAPOINTED

I love to play. I have no one to play with will you play with me? **roseinwinter**, 19,  **#125740**

TRY EVERYTHING ONCE....

We wanna play! We are not swingers, I do not want another man. I love women and getting them off, he likes to watch. Interested? **Jewels**, 34,  **#125643**

COUPLE SEEK GIRL


where do we start? we want a real girl, bi-sexual. a girl that is looking for a couple. 35-55 years old we are 40's. we are cute. **saustincouple**, 44,  **#125567**


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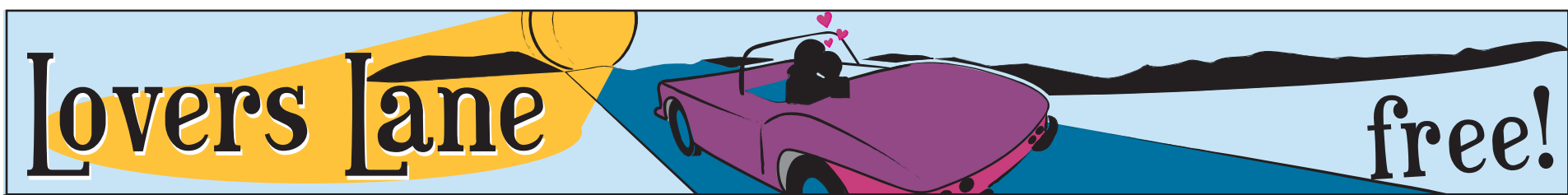
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women
SEEKING
men

POLITICS & BEER
I'm not looking for anything serious, just someone to pass some time with. I'm a full-time student working a couple of internships, but can always make time for interesting people. **Austin08**, 25, **#125846**

BEAUTIFUL, SINGLE MOM...
In 30 words or less...beautiful, college educated, outgoing, single mom of three incredible boys. "Bucket List": Sky diving,scuba diving,a cruise to somewhere warm. Just need someone to share it with... **Mybell**, 37, **#125830**

CLASSY AND SASSY
I'm smart and sexy with a professional career and a great body. I am outgoing, funny, and have varied interests. Seeking a best friend and lover. Chemistry is most important. **lindas555**, 57, **#125819**

SASSY SMILING BROAD
I just recently moved here, I'm a pretty relaxed laid back girl, i enjoy hanging out going new places, meeting new people i'm excited and open for any new experiences! **bri1021**, 21, **#125811**

LIFE LOVE LAUGHTER
love to make people laugh. Always looking for something new to do in Austin. Laid back person who loves music and reading. Always working on self improvement. **crose22**, 22, **#125808**

FEISTY AFFECTIONATE MALEABLE
i love shoes,active and motivated guys, silly humor i don't like sticky price tags, feeling unappreciated, having people expect things from me based on my appearance. **abd_ads**, 27, **#125801**

SHARE SOMETHING BREATHAKING
I'm shy but charming, passionate and silly. Hoping to find a gentleman with an eye for beauty in the not so obvious places..... Someone to explore, learn and grow with. **VictorianStar**, 34, **#125798**

I WAS WONDERING...
is ice cream better in the dark? **k_now**, 33, **#125705**

BOG ANYONE
intelligent, outgoing, attractive,energetic seeking activity partner for dance, music events etc... gave up dating but would like a companion to get out with time to time. **BOG?Blues on the Green. Manstro-masRoadScholar**, 48, **#125792**

THE NICE ONE,AAHAAH
I consider myself an open-minded person, but my deal breakers are liars and cheaters , I speak French currently and i am trying to improve my english. **kenza**, 22, **#125635**

WANTA B FRIENDS?
I want 2 make new friends and meet outgoing people like myself. Love 2 keep myself busy with various activities but I'm also ok hanging out. Want 2 b friends? **Dngerously**, 39, **#125789**

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
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NEW AUSTIN GIRL!
All smiles:ldgy (Chihuahua 16 yrs), Jinx (Chihuahua puppy), Costa Rica, good red wine, dancing, watching football, friends and family, traveling, spas, cooking, intelligence, lowering my carbon footprint, kindness, confidence, freedom! **tcurahrah**, 37, **#125774**

IWANTCHEMISTRY
Rock-n-roll soul in search of another... I'm a kind, honest, loving, soul, that will not settle for less in a man I date or a friend ... **WantCHEMISTRY**, 42, **#125754**

LIVELY SPIRIT
"I wanna feel how I wanna feel forever." If you know the singer of that quote, you're a shoe-in! haha. **hip-peace**, 23, **#125692**

SMARTASSES APPLY WITHIN
I like white boys with tattoos who are smartasses just like me! I enjoy music (psychohilly, rockabilly, alternative mainly) reading, movies, walking and just hanging out. **HNNYPOT**, 32, **#125667**

SOFT HARTED ROCKER
im not one who likes talking about herself, but here goes. i like movies(horror) music(hard rock)good food and good conversation. looking for someone who likes the same. also 420 friendly. **turtle_luvr**, 35, **#125655**

INDIAN MEN PLEASE
I am an intelligent, attractive, American woman seeking an Indian man 27-40 for dating. I need a man who I can have intelligent conversation, is compassionate, and has traveled. Namaste. **drishti**, 25, **#125652**

MOVING TO AUSTIN
I'm about to move to Austin in June. YAY! I'm really excited about the move...but don't know a soul in Austin yet. Wanna meet some cool new people. **bunnytexas**, 37, **#125640**

ELEGANT SARCASIM.
arbor cinema, dance,Guinness, hair that smells good, sticking my feet in cold water with pants rolled up. dog sitting. staying up late, trying to wake up later. trying teas, shrng music.. **ccarmon**, 22, **#125633**

men
SEEKING
women

SUCCESSFUL DOMINANT SENSITIVE
Looking for someone that I can talk to and share everything with. Communicating all my thoughts and feelings comfortably makes for true intimacy. I want to truly know you. **SeriouslyReal**, 49, **#125856**

ROMANTIC NIHILIST
Really I'm just looking to hang out and have a good time with someone that likes to hold a conversation about everything and anything. **airstripone**, 26, **#125834**

DOWN-TO-EARTH
I am looking to meet someone who I find interesting, attractive, and who I can enjoy Austin with. I want someone who is down-to-earth and accepts me how I am. **atx_dp**, 25, **#118907**

NEW IN TOWN
I moved to Austin after graduating college. I love movies, frisbee golf, music, and lots more. I like meeting new people and having fun! **drummerjoe**, 23, **#125805**

DESPERATELY SEEKING FRIENDS
i'm short, random, and fuzzy. i need people to hang with....will that be you? *dum dum duuuuuuuuum*. **drum_munky**, 23, **#125797**

BRAD PITT'S BROTHER
I swear that headline is 100% true... ish. I'm a 27 year old writer who's attending school to become a massage therapist. I'm extremely ambitious and caring. **Konoboy**, 27, **#125767**

THE SILLY SILLINESS
Hello? Anyone there? Hello? Does this thing work? Can.....you.....see them? They...they must feed. Feed. **rebarex**, 46, **#125782**

UT GRAD STUDENT
Loves movies and music, and talking endlessly about both. Always up for Swimming, eating crazy foods, museums, going for drinks, and catching any kind of show going on around town. **fizzkinz**, 24, **#125766**

LUCKY, RANDOM, FUN.
I'm fun, have exceptional luck, confident, product-designer, world-traveler, random, Adventurous, vices, witty/humorous, 49%devil/49%gentleman/2 %untitled, story-teller, life-of-the-party, I like evenings that turn into stories you can't tell your grandchildren. **Orbis-NonSufficit**, 24, **#125762**

JUST TELEPORTED...
Fresh from the mean streets of Atlanta! Lookin for a gal with a good head on her shoulders. Must be diligent, talented, and have an overall lust for life. **Darling**, 25, **#125764**

PUNK SEEKS ROCKETTE
21 year-old junior@UT-Austin. Intellectual who enjoys punk-rock and Wes Anderson. Into movies and quirky Austin culture. Seeking down-to-earth chick with spunk. Think we'll click? Hit me up and we'll boogie. **Team_Zissou_Intern**, 21, **#125760**

SEE THE UNSEEN
yep, stuff about me. wow. I love music. it's great. i'm a little crazy and neurotic... can't lie about that. tattoos and piercings are great...the more you have, the better. **Omegacode**, 24, **#125759**

JAZZY GREEN TRUMPETER
New to Austin. I would like to meet active women into the outdoors, biking and yoga. I love live music, I also enjoy cooking healthy food. **greenyogi**, 50, **#125753**

COOL FUNNY GUY
I am a very happy guy I love life and believe you should live everyday like the last.I enjoy music.I am looking for a woman who loves life and herself. **stuntmanmike**, 31, **#125748**

HELLO
I am new here and I am interested to meet news face from any where so that we will become one body Thanks. **chungu80**, 25, **#125742**

STRONG WILL
I'm an easygoing person who is just looking for something new, away from the bar scene and someone true. **ThaDude28**, 28, **#125738**

IS EVERYBODY IN
Looking to have some fun with some new people in this amazing town that we live in. I am open minded and willing to try almost anything once or twice. **rangerguy20**, 28, **#125731**

NICE GUY AUSTIN
i am a nice guy in austin like the title says and i have not found any really nice down to earth girls. i have been looking but nothing. **512tm**, 24, **#125516**

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women
SEEKING
men

AFFECTIONATE.....CARING..... CONSIDERATE
I'm looking for friends for now...and who knows what may happen...my ideal mate would be someone who takes pride in appearance...takes care of themself both mentally and physically. Some one with the same characteristics as myself. **AHDIA**, 35, **#125849**

BOOTYLICIOUS, SMART, FUNNY
23/single mom. Looking for lovely lady. Enjoys hanging out, watching movies, sharing a nice meal. Laid back, open minded, pierced and tattooed Virgo that really loves Italian food. **KITTY-LOVESKITTY**, 23, **#125833**

PINK IS GOOD
I love to live,laugh,love.My family are my life.I'm a multifaseted gal,which means I can cook like Emeril, garden like Martha, party like a rock star, and love like no other. **Tster**, 26, **#125823**

PEACE. LOVE. HOPE.
I'm Jennifer :) I'm your semi-typical Austin girl who loves to go to shows,photography or just hang out at a local coffee shop.I'd like to meet a new girl-maybe you?? **heart_of_mine**, 19, **#125744**

BASICALLY AWESOME
I'm a student at UT. I'm very honest and I expect that in return. I like to have fun so talk to me and let me know what you're about! **jkg589**, 18, **#125694**

FISHING, BOATING, FRIENDS....
Didn't think I would be doing this, but here goes. I love the outdoors, fishing, boating, camping, and mainly the water. My interests are very diverse and I am down-to-earth. **seas2day**, 48, **#125647**

BOARDING N TATS
I'm a college student who loves snowboarding, longboarding, any kind of boarding, and live shows.I'm in love with girls with Tats and piercings. Want someone to show me around Austin. **snowchick87**, 20, **#125569**

COUNTRY HIPPIE
Live for the Present, for the Past is gone and the Future may never come. **kimmikaye**, 42, **#125500**

BIGIRL SEEKS EYESORE
Seeking freaky adult human for whatever. Like punks, NOT crusties with dreads/trust funds. Good: tattoos, uncontrollable laughter, cynicism. You should like: booty, my kid, dogs, Horse-shoe, bad karaoke. No Christians! **funnyhaha**, 38, **#124885**

NICE GUY
Simple guy that struggles against sameness,dark hearts.looking for that guy in light,bright smile,young in heart,romantic,and belives in being a equal in a relationship A+ for slender,smooth! lets chat. **aros1051**, 39, **#125820**

SINGLE.
Im a really cool & funny guy to be around with. Like to have fun, and going out dancing. I have been single for 2 months. Want to meet someone. **danyboy_09**, 18, **#125684**

WITH WOMEN'S HEART..
i like guys who are sincere and honest! **lifemind**, 27, **#125653**

BE MINE.
I am looking for tall, dark (or light), and handsome for the limp-wrist set. **beloved**, 37, **#125648**

GAYBOY CODY
IAm 23yrs old iam going to Cosmetology school i have wonderful friends i want a guy to win me over be hot charming and be nice and want me. **macattac2003**, 23, **#125639**

QUALITY GUY
Enjoy social functions, movies, theater, cooking, entertaining, more. Swim, work-out, and walk my dog. Yes: Romance, charm, thoughtfulness, adventure. No: Drugs, heavy drinkers, smokers, insecurity, unsafe sex, closet cases, immaturity. **taurusbul186**, 43, **#125317**

SOBER GUY AUSTIN
I am a gwm, 60 years old, slender, 5'10", 140 lbs. I am a dog lover, avid reader, etc. HIV+ for 20 years, good health. Retired, easy-going, honest, communicative. **soberguy**, 60, **#125183**

ATTRACTIVE HUNGER FORCE
Sexy sophisticated male likes to have a good time, party, relax and enjoy life. I'm hott in the kitchen and even hotter in other places. **hungerforce**, 24, **#125108**

YOUR SENSUAL SPARTAN
I'm a man with a passion for good looking women, high quality dining, and watching animals. I enjoy watching the 300, Rambo, and Conan. Could you be my Salma/Heidi Klum? **inuyasha86**, 21, **#125037**

FRIENDSHIP, DATING, LTR
Looking to meet a nice guy. Interests: camping, hiking, biking, theater, movies, conversation over beer, reading, canoeing, and traveling. Am politically progressive. Young guys, Hispanic men are a plus. **AusAbogado**, 61, **#124933**

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PICK ME PICK ME!

Who are your favorite authors and why? hunter s thompson- he created a genre and lived in a way most of us only wished we had the balls to. chuck palahniuk- he probably has the most influence in my own writing. he has such a unique way of describing the underbelly of society and somehow making it beautiful (in a sadistic sort of way)

Quote a line from your favorite movie. Mister rabbit says, "A moment of realization is worth a thousand prayers." -natural born killers

read the rest of SPIRITOFLOSALTOS' profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane

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JUST friends

I'M BORED
Sorry no picture, I'm normally shy but if you want to get to know me, email me and we can see how things will go from there. See you later. **OhSoDelicious**, 21, **#125803**

JUST READ IT
Hey! Fun guy, into sports. Sarcastic and funny....Sometimes! Love to laugh and make you people laugh. Guy every girl dreams bout but not ready for. 24 SWM. D/D Free. **baseballguy12**, 24, **#125727**

LAUGHING, EXPLORING, MUSIC
I like the sun, live music, laughing until I almost pee,& my kids. I'm new to Austin and looking for cool ass girls and maybe guys for friendship. **kdub**, 27, **#125662**

FUZZY MUSIC FAN
hey everyone! i've been in austin since last july, but haven't even been downtown. something wrong with that. i dig all types of music and am up for anything fun! **fuzzums_druzzums**, 23, **#125460**

COOL CHICK HERE!
I am delightful, you just dont even know! **bonnalicious2008**, 22, **#125723**

GEEK CHIC
Just looking for someone who I can get along with. Will be moving to Austin soon, and I am looking to broaden my horizons. **Geek_Sheek**, 22, **#125504**

FUNLOVING MAN SEEKING...
new interesting friendships. I love life and truly believe life is too short to spend it doing some thing your not happy with. True to this I retired at 47. **Nuts4Retrievers**, 50, **#125396**

AWSOMELY KNOWLEGABLE BARISTA
Hey whats up my name is Michael I just moved to austin looking for some one to show me around town that know the sites that aren't on any tour map. **hopiland_1987**, 21, **#125341**

DO NOT READ!!!
Let's throw our laptops in a fire & rip the clothes from our bodies & dance around like savages ... Seriously, I like long walks on the beach ... **flyingmon-key**, 28, **#125297**

BB-YOU KNOW YOU are mine, and im yours fully. You are amazing in my eyes!-LB
I WILL ALWAYS love you! Kenny

messages

a Shot in the Dark.....→

BEHIND THE COUNTER
You: Sweet little number behind the counter-wearing a beanie and listening to trance music. Me: Tall skinny hippie who likes their blunt wraps. Where: PlanetK-Stassney. When: 4/19 @ 4:20pm. **When: Friday, April 11. Where: Planet K. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902889**

12TH & LAMAR
I saw you walk on the bus over a month ago wearing your little red riding hood. I am gonna keep on lovin' you. you are my everything. **When: Wednesday, March 5. Where: 12th & Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902887**

DAVE AND BUSTERS(4/12)
Dave+Busters Mopac+Braker Saturday Night 4/12 You: gorgeous girl in black dress next to me at skee-ball. Me: skee-ball geek in striped shirt next to you. A couple more rounds? **When: Saturday, April 12. Where: Dave and Busters. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902886**

NOT TENDER!!
U:Dancing @ Oil Can Harry's,wearing white dress,and smoldering inside of it.I watched from close by,U shimmied the man tunnel.Was the beginning of 3blurry days.I'd like 2 take U home again! **When: Thursday, April 10. Where: Oil Can Harry's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902885**

AVANT ON 4TH
Last year you cut my curly hair and I don't know where to find you now! Charlotte, you are the best hair sculptress ever. Where can I find you? **When: Saturday, May 12, 2007. Where: Avant on 4th. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902884**

BEARDED STALLION PLANET REPLAY
From the moment I looked into that manbeard I knew we should mate. I noticed you eyeing me; albino ginger buying Reba/Tatu. I got tongue-tied hearing you sing MJ. "SH'MON!" **When: Tuesday, April 8. Where: Planet Replay and now my dreams!. You: Man. Me: Man. #902883**

GODDESS!
You, brown-haired beauty, wearing a red dress and sandals. Half Price Books, Parmer & Mopac! Me selling books, BM, sitting in chair, you were looking/buying. So lovely! Dinner? :) **When: Saturday, April 12. Where: Half Price Books. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902882**

MEET AGAIN REN?
Ren at Mean-Eyed Cat, we played pool. You liked my hat. Darn that Matt! Don't dread the mark of red on your forehead. Wear your fedora, let's meet and chat! **When: Friday, April 11. Where: Mean-Eyed Cat. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902881**

STARBUCKS ON 620
Had my hands full and you offered to open my car door. Like an idiot, I said I could probably handle it. I'd like to open some doors for you. **When: Saturday, April 12. Where: Starbucks on 620 at 4 Points. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902880**

MUELLER DOG WALKER
You: black and white dogs, strolling in the zombie movie set. Me: tidying the house. Alive in here. Come and be beans on my rice. **When: Friday, April 11. Where: Near Tom Milller. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902877**

ASTROS CAP BEAUTYBAR
Baseball sleeves and cap, you caught my eye. We met near the bar, but I wish I had time to talk to you more! **When: Friday, April 11. Where: Beauty Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902876**

STOCKHOLM SYNDROME ELYSIUM
me:dancing with friends, kept catching your eye as you sat at table near entrance...you danced at one point; I wanted to talk but next thing I knew you were gone. **When: Thursday, April 10. Where: Elysium. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902875**

GAMBLING IN VEGAS!
I am looking for Brandy who was gambling with me on 4-2-08 in Bill's Gambling Hall. Please contact me at my email address. I can't stop thinking about you!!! Art **When: Wednesday, April 2. Where: Las Vegas. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902874**

SETON FEBRUARY 2007
Me: Jim Beam shirt, stabbed thumb. You: TYM, medical assistant, beautiful hands. I came back to have stitches removed, you remembered me. Do you still? I still think about you. **When: Tuesday, February 20, 2007. Where: Seton Hospital Emergency Room. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902873**

SXSW SPOON FREE
You: latina player on assignment great smile blue eyes, white long sleeve top, nice backend. Me: cutie brown t-shirt shorts walking by you laughing my heart out; wanna play sometime? **When: Thursday, March 13. Where: Auditorium Shores at Town Lake. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902871**

MY TIFF'S TREAT
You. Adorable hispanic girl working mostly in the back. Your smile and giggle made my day. I bet your kiss is sweeter than any cookie in there! Movies, Bike Rides? **When: Tuesday, April 8. Where: Tiffs Treats. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902870**

HOTTY-TODDY IRISHMAN
You:undeniably handsome irishman Me:tall and ginger.I've been running into your hypnotic eyes and lucious lips all over town...Polvos on Sunday, Freddie on Monday.Lets cross paths again and make it UNFORGETTABLE. **When: Sunday, April 6. Where: here and there. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902869**

CORPUS ROCKIES 07
You: Courageous dog-walker, transcontinental cyclist, documentarian who fills me dreams. Me: tall, non-Japanese, entrepreneur, willing to go the distance, treat you sushi, cook free range chicken. lets go roller skating? **When: Monday, May 7, 2007. Where: texas 4000 bike ride. You: Man. Me: Man. #902868**

SPRANG BANG
Second time around ,I still couldn't speak. I was too shy, shy... and then you were gone. You: White sleeveless tee, tight pants. Me:Just another smiling face in the crowd. **When: Sunday, April 6. Where: Chain Drive. You: Man. Me: Man. #902866**

ANIMATION STUDENTS MEET!
You were buying the new Jeff Brown comic. I'm the girl at the register. You asked me if I was in Geoff's animation class, but I never asked your name... **When: Saturday, April 5. Where: Austin Books and Comics. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902865**

PULL TO STOP
Your blue eyeshadow made me look twice when you got on near Bird's north. You sat next to me, but I stared at my crossword. Bump me again sometime? **When: Wednesday, April 2. Where: #3 South. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902864**

MR. POSTMAN
You are the dishiest mailman I've ever seen. Do you like strawberry blondes with questionable taste in literature? I hope you ring twice... **When: Saturday, April 5. Where: Travis Heights. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902863**

FRAMER AT MICHAEL'S
You-blond dreads, framer at Michael's on 71. Are you real? Just too fine. Me-short dark hair, glasses, a painter forever searching for more colors, beauty & framer. Coffee sometime? **When: Wednesday, March 19. Where: Michael's on 71. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902862**

TONY HCO PARTY
Met you at the HCO party last week-end and was hoping to see you today, but couldn't make it. Would love to hear from you. **When: Sunday, March 30. Where: HCO party. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902861**

DEAR AUSTIN;PLEASE HAVE a look at WWW.KimelaTrump.com

I THINK ABOUT you all the time and wish we could just talk to each other...

HB, DON'T FORGET me please

YOU WERE THE guy at UPS who had trouble finding the place. I was the guy with the beard you were talking to in line. I was an asshole to you for no good reason and you didn't deserve it. I knew I was wrong and did not have the courage to apologize. I'm sorry. If you're reading this and are NOT him, please be nice to someone today or assume that the person that just treated you like shit will realize they were wrong and regret it later.

WHY ARE YOU in my mood? Thought you moved across town....get out of my dreams...did you turn over the rock?

OLD SKOOL BACK in the day!!!!

WALLGREEN'S WELLS BRANCH!
Walgreen's Wells Branch. You thought you cut in line. I said you didn't. Please call! **When: Thursday, April 3. Where: Walgreen's.. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902860**

PLUCKER'S ROUND ROCK
We were sitting in the bar during happy hour. I was wearing blue/white striped shirt and light khakis. You had short hair, glasses, black slacks and a very cute smile. **When: Thursday, April 3. Where: Plucker's Round Rock. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902859**

CUTE BLUE SWEATER
outside Allen's Boots on Congress. me tall in python boots. you dark hair blue sweater, mouthed hello, waved. i ignored you. with herd of overprotective cousin men. wanted to respond. **When: Saturday, March 29. Where: Allen's Boots on Congress. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902858**

HIT & RUN
You:Sexy EMS guy responding to hit & run at Torchy's Me:Cute secretary across the street that called it in. We were both flirting, but had to get back to work **When: Wednesday, April 2. Where: Torchy's Tacos on S. First. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902857**

KERBEY KUTIE
You: Gorgeous brunette in teal with friend, noon Wednesday at Kerbey on Guad. Me: Strapping gentleman in meeting, captivated. Makin eyes inside, outside, from car...made you laugh! Meet for flapjacks? **When: Wednesday, April 2. Where: Kerbey Lane. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902856**

WHOLE FOODS SATURDAY
Whole Foods Saturday March 29th near escalators. You: tall, dark hair, amazing eyes. Exchanged glances. You were at a table with girlfriends. Me with son on escalator. Want to meet? **When: Saturday, March 29. Where: Whole Foods. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902855**

CROCHET DRESS DARLING
Watched you all night, chuckled to myself when you spilled your wine. I think you work @ Beauty Bar. Your short curly hair is unbearably adorable, your smile wrecks me. **When: Tuesday, April 1. Where: UCHI. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902854**

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FREE WILLASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for April 18 - April 24

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): A reader from Fiji is encouraging me to pay a visit. "Fiji is heaven on earth," she says. "You'll be ecstatic here." While I have no doubt that's true, it's hard for me to imagine being any more ecstatic than I am when I travel to Hawaii. It, too, has resemblances to paradise. And the plane flight there takes five hours less and is \$600 cheaper than the jaunt to Fiji. Do I really need a more heavenly heaven on earth than, say, Waimoku Falls Trail in Maui? I expect you're facing a metaphorically similar situation, Aries. The question you may want to ask yourself is this: Should you pine and aim for a state beyond perfection, or will mere perfection serve you just as well?

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): *The Washington Post* solicited ideas from readers about innovative strategies for wasting time. I'll offer you a few in the hope that they'll inspire you to take a major break from the Big Pressing Issues you're obsessed with. It's high time, in my opinion, to give yourself an enormous amount of slack ... to forgive yourself for not being perfect ... to dissolve any guilt you feel for not having accomplished all your life goals yet. In that spirit, consider the following time-wasters: 1) Send letters to the editor about grammatical mistakes in the classified ads. 2) Make yourself the world's top expert on a person randomly chosen from the phone book. 3) Keep a logbook in your bathroom to verify that the toilet bowl cleaner really does work for 1,000 flushes. 4) Set the Guinness record for time spent reading the *Guinness Book of Records*.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In her book *Dr. Tatiana's Sex Advice to All Creation*, biologist Olivia Judson extols the male members of the fruitfly species *Drosophila bifurca*. Although they are barely one-eighth of an inch long, their sperm can be up to 2.3 inches long. If a man were capable of the same prodigious production, his sperm would be as big as a whale. Metaphorically speaking, you Gemini's now have the ability to generate phenomena on this scale. That's why I hope you will devote all your ingenuity and resourcefulness to creating an intricate, beautiful masterpiece, not a humongous, complicated mass of confusion.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Lewis Thomas was a physician who wrote elegantly about biology in books like *The Lives of a Cell*. I want to bring your attention to his meditation on warts. "Nothing in the body has so much the look of toughness and permanence as a wart," he wrote. And yet "they can be made to go away by something that can only be called thinking. ... Warts can be ordered off the skin by hypnotic suggestion." (tinyurl.com/3clzc5) Thomas regarded this phenomenon as "absolutely astonishing, more of a surprise than cloning or recombinant DNA." According to his astrological reckoning, Cancerian, you currently have a comparable marvel at your disposal. Using the power of your mind, you can shrink, dissolve, or banish a wartlike vexation.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): This would be a perfect time for you to write your ultimate personal manifesto. I'm talking about composing a sweeping statement of the core ideas that fuel your lust for life. To get you in the mood, take a look at the following lyrics from Danny Schmidt's song "Company of Friends": "I believe in restless hunger ... I believe in private thunder ... I believe in inspiration ... I believe in slow creation ... I believe in lips on ears ... I believe in being wrong ... I believe in contradiction ... I believe in living smitten ... I believe our book is written by our company of friends."

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): "The Japanese believe that crying babies grow fast," wrote John Flinn in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "and that the louder an infant wails, the more the gods have blessed it." The astrological omens suggest that a similar principle will soon hold true for you: The more you sob and blubber, the smarter you'll get. The louder you howl and moan, the more likely you'll be to attract benevolent influences and unexpected help.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): In order for some plants to thrive in the tropical forests of South America, they need bats to eat their fruits and poop out their seeds while flying around. Biologists call the bat excrement by a more lyrical name: seed rain. It's not too much of a stretch to invoke this relationship as an apt metaphor for your life right now, Libra. Like the bat-dependent plants, you now require the help of fertility agents whose work may be a bit messy.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): It's the Week of the Fabulous Smirk. Not the Week of the Arrogant Smirk or the Vengeful Smirk or the Hateful, Whiny, Passive-Aggressive Smirk. Rather, the Smirk that Passeth All Understanding. The Wise, Charitable, Forbearing Smirk. The Uber-Smirk that says, "I've figured out what everyone's hiding, and I love them anyway." You are ready, Scorpio, to explore the Divine Smirk that arises naturally when you have outwitted an obstacle that was obscuring the truth from you, when you have finally seen through the delusion you were under and guessed the secret you weren't smart enough to see before.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): This would be a good week for you to compete in a flamethrower competition. You'd probably win. Why? Because according to my analysis of the astrological omens, you currently have an unprecedented knack for playing with fire. You would most likely also be victorious in a marshmallow-roasting contest or a jump-over-the-bonfire tournament. And you would probably do surprisingly well in any activity that might be described as "sitting in the hot seat."

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): "The great theme is not Romeo and Juliet," said poet Anne Sexton. "The great theme we all share is that of becoming ourselves, of overcoming our father and mother, of assuming our identities somehow." This is certainly your great theme, Capricorn. And it's especially important for you to devote yourself to it now. You're at a turning point in your lifelong transformation. You're being presented with a clear-cut choice between sinking back into the ill-fitting yet comfortable mold that others have shaped for you or else striding out into the frontier in a brave push to become a higher, deeper, more complete version of yourself.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): "We only hear questions that we are able to answer," said Friedrich Nietzsche. Luckily for you, Aquarius, there are two big, long-simmering questions for which you have recently begun to sniff out the answers. That means you're now able, at least potentially, to hear those questions. I have three pieces of advice to help ensure that you actually hear them. First, wash your brain out so it's got more free space in it. Second, give your listening skills a tune-up. Third, meditate on Edgar Allen Poe's idea that "Those who dream by day know many things which escape those who dream only by night."

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Back in 1995, I began seeing a psychotherapist whose influence ultimately improved me in a thousand ways. At the end of our first session, she handed me a note as I left. It read, "If you don't articulate your conscious desires, your unconscious patterns will come true." She gazed at me firmly and said: "Don't come back until you've proved to yourself that those words are true. All my work will be of no use to you unless you take them to heart." It took me exactly 23 days to prove to myself that what she'd written was true. Now I offer you the same challenge, Pisces. Spend the upcoming week in intense contemplation on the hypothesis, "If you don't articulate your conscious desires, your unconscious patterns will come true."

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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